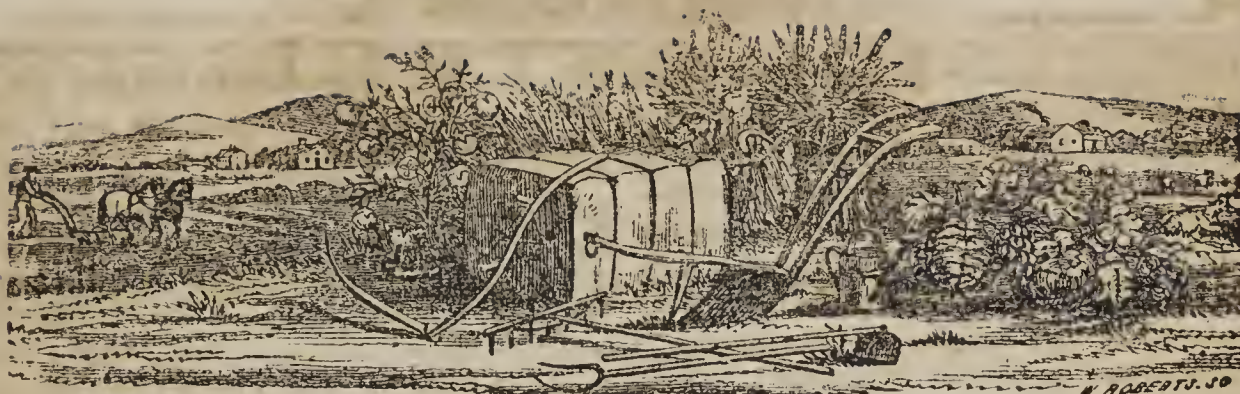


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# THE FARMER AND PLANTER.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic and Rural Economy.

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**BY GEORGE SEABORN,**

Editor and Proprietor.

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For the Farmer and Planter.

## The Turnip---(Brassica Rapa).

MR. EDITOR:—This is a biennial plant, now cultivated in all temperate climes, and is at present, cultivated largely as a field crop throughout the whole Southern country. It is economy here, to have a fine "turnip patch," and we see no reason why so important a culture might not be increased, and made to fill a gap in our rural economy, which should certainly be looked to.

Our first requisite to a good crop is, a thorough perfection of the soil. If this be a stiff clay, our first object is, to lighten and loosen its texture. This can be done by sowing down the intended field in the October previous, to rye, wheat or barley, or in the spring with oats. This crop will be off by the first of July fol-

lowing, and then turn the stubble in with a good two-horse plow as deep as can possibly be done. There is a double advantage in a deep soil for turnips, viz: In retaining the moisture during the hot, dry weather which we are apt to have in early autumn, so that the plants do not suffer, and does not become too wet during the rainy season, as the earth drinks in and retains the rains below the surface, and is not liable to wash away.

Ashes and lime both have the property of rendering heavy soils lighter, and light soils more tenacious, and both more productive, especially for turnips, beets and potatoes, which delight in calcareous soils. Turning under coarse vegetables or carbonaceous matter, such as straw, leaves, pine brush, corn stalks, a crop of cow peas, or any other green crop, leaf mould, and even tan bark itself, so deeply beneath the surface as will not interfere with cultivation, will, by slow decomposition of these materials, much increase the fertility of a clay soil by improving its texture.

The value of salt as a fertilizer, is also worthy of consideration; it is composed of chlorine and soda, and these ingredients are defective in many soils. It also has the property of attracting and retaining moisture, as well as ammonia and other gases, which add to the fertility of the soil.

It is asserted that salt protects the plant from suffering by sudden reduction of of temperature, by entering into their systems, stimulating and rendering them more vigorous, impregnating their sap and rendering it less likely to be congealed. However, there is some discrepancy of opinion about this:



If our land is not sufficiently rich, we should apply a dressing of manure before plowing—that which is fine, that its properties may be quickly disseminated. I have always used good Peruvian guano, about three hundred pounds to the acre; this I mix with coal dust or ashes,\* and with this, one sack of salt to every acre, not only as a manure, but as a grand preventive against worms.

Our next requisite is, to prepare the ground for the seed. An English farmer would not think his ground in order, unless it had six good plowings, and as many good harrowings with the iron tooth and the brush. Our ordinary farmers cannot spare the time and labor for such preparations. But the land should have at least three good plowings with good plows, and these not stinted in their length; each plowing should be followed by a good harrowing. The object of this is, to get the earth as fine as possible, and when this is accomplished, it is ready for the seed.

Great care should be used in the selection of seed, as on their perfection, the growth of the young plants much depends. They should be sound and well ripened, that they may germinate freely. The soundness of seed may be tested by putting them into warm water; nearly all sound seed will sink in this fluid in a short time.

I see that one of the correspondents to the August No. of the Farmer and Planter, says: "Then sow about three pounds of seed to the acre, which brings them on quick." This is all out of reason, one pound is a superabundance, if properly sown. If we use the old "jerk 'em bottle" fashion, I have no doubt that it will take three if not more pounds to go through an acre. There is a little article called the turnip drill or seed sower, the cost of which is only about four or five dollars at the most; with one of these, almost any boy can sow an acre in three hours, and use only three-fourths of a pound of seed; and then another advantage is, the evenness of the plants when they come up, and the little work to thin and tend them. This drill is also adapted to sow all kinds of garden seeds with equal facility, and may be found at any of the agricultural depots.

The time of sowing is, at the discretion of the farmer, he should get them in by the first of September; if he grows the Ruta Baga, they should be in the ground two or three weeks earlier, although we have seen very good crops raised from seed planted the fifth of September. Some farmers sow their Ruta Baga seed in

July—the hot, dry weather at this time will be likely to injure them, unless we take extra pains with the crop.

Lay the rows off about two feet apart; this is done by throwing two furrows together with a wide shovel, and splitting the tops open with a short bill-tongue plow. If we use the turnip drill, there is no need of this labor; there being no beds, the crop is more easily worked. The drill leaves a mark that we can see until the plants come up, then we work the crop with a plow; great care should be taken not to cover the plants—follow the first plowing with the hand, thin out and straighten such as may be covered, and leave the plants standing from ten to fifteen inches apart in the row. The crop may require two or three workings with the plow, and until the plants are large enough to cover the ground well, the rows must be kept free from grass.

All this care and trouble is more than amply repaid in the crop. I have known five hundred bushels raised on one acre, but as an average crop with us when the land is good, we may safely set the amount at two hundred or two hundred and fifty bushels.

Turnips for table use in the winter, should be housed in the same manner as sweet potatoes, but for stock feeding, we can leave them standing in the ground.\* The light frosts of the South do not materially injure them. The planter will find that all his stock are fond of them, and more especially the milch cow. When cooked, the turnip is of essential service in fattening hogs, although they devour them greedily when raw.

I might devote a whole chapter to the value of turnips as food for stock, and then one chapter would fail to give this valuable vegetable justice, but I will leave it for another time.

D\*\*\*.

Sumter, So. Ca., August 1st, 1857.

\*Turnips taken up before the first of January, contain much more nutriment than those do that are allowed to remain in the ground through the winter—such become pithy and insipid.—Ed. F. & P.

*Mending Broken China.*—The following old recipe for mending China, is said to answer admirably:

"Take a very thick solution of gum arabic in water, and stir it into plaster of Paris, until the mixture becomes as viscous paste. Apply it with a brush to the fractured edges, and stick them together. In three days, the article cannot again be broken in the same place. The whiteness of the cement renders it doubly valuable."

\*In mixing wet or moist ashes with guano, there is danger of a considerable loss of ammonia.—Ed. F. & P.



For the Farmer and Planter.

Crops, Seasons, &c.

MR. EDITOR:—We are sadly in want of reliable information upon the subject of crops, seasons, &c. The press generally, from year's end to year's end, teems with misrepresentations or imperfect details, and the world is misled by our own blunders or indifference as to facts.

The price of cotton, of grain, of all products of the South, is daily becoming more dependent upon the New York speculators. These Rail Road facilities have drawn distant places nearer to each other, and demand and supply are lost in management and speculation. It will not do to trust our interests in the hands of the political or stock jobbing press—every fellow who takes a tramp through the country, or a ride upon a rail, has it in his power to insure us by his scribblings. To-day a city drummer whizzes by rail through the country—a fellow who don't know a pea plant from a cotton plant, and has no idea of the area planted, condition of crop or seasons—to-morrow a letter from our correspondent, announces that "the yield of wheat was never finer—corn looks wonderfully well, and gives promise of a most abundant harvest, and the cotton, although backward—since the late rains, has bunched out and grown wonderfully—with ordinary seasons, the crop will doubtless exceed that of last year, taking into consideration the vast increase in area planted, &c." This is the staple of most agricultural matters of the correspondents. It goes the rounds at home, and then travels across the waters, losing nothing by importation. Need we be surprised if prices vary under this state of things—is it not time to take this matter in our own hands and try to get at the truth and circulate it? Stability, certainly, is what we want—let the price of our produce be regulated by the laws of trade, demand and supply, and not by penny a liners and speculators.

We would suggest that our planters report to the Farmer and Planter the area allotted to cotton, corn, grain and grass, in their respective sections—the condition of the crop, the character of stands particularly (for this is a most important item), a comparison of the crop with that of last year, and what effect the seasons have had or probably will have upon the yield. These are very plain matters which planters can easily communicate, and will be reliable when emanating from such a source.

It is only a day or two since, that we saw it announced in a New York paper, that the crops

of cotton were remarkably promising, and the yield for 1857 would exceed all previous years, all "from our correspondent," who, in all probability, lived in Wall Street, or some other shav-  
ing shop.

BROOMSEDGE.

For the Farmer and Planter.

Oats.

MR. EDITOR:—Below you will find something on the subject of oats. I have often wondered why planters did not plant more oats than they do, particularly those that have a plenty of open or resting land, which the most of up-country planters have. For every planter must be aware of the great saving of corn, as well as fodder, that is in a good crop of oats. It is very true that oats come in in a very busy time of the year, but at the same time I am very certain, and I know from experience, that they will and do pay for all the time that is expended on them; and I don't think but what every planter will admit that oats are very easily made, and land that will produce 10 bushels of corn, will make fine oats; and from experience, oats are the finest food that I know of, to feed horses. On in the summer, particularly work horses. I will now give you my experience on oats: I plant oats every year, and always have planted oats, more or less, every year, about the first of July. I have a cutting knife, and give each horse 2½ bushels of cut up oats per day, and no blades. The 2½ bushels of oats answers the place of a half a feed of corn and blades, and as soon as I begin to feed my horses in that way, they begin to plow better and thrive, and the only reason that I can give for their plowing better and thriving is, because a half a feed of corn and oats are not as heating as a whole feed of corn and blades, not only that a horse I think wants a change of food, as well as a man. I think that every planter that has a plenty of land, ought to make oats enough to feed all of his horses or mules at least 3 months, or from the first of July to the first of October, to give them 2½ bushels of cut up oats, and a half a feed of corn, which is from 4 to 5 ears of corn a day, and no blades. I say from 4 to 5 ears a day, as that is considered in this neighborhood, or with me, as being a half a feed. The number of ears depends upon the size of the ears, but my general feed is, when I feed on corn and blades, 30 ears of corn a day, and never more than 4 sheaves of blades; but my sheaves of blades weigh from 2 to 2½ lbs. average, which is a plenty for any horse, and if I had more blades than I wanted, I would not



give a horse more than 4 sheaves a day, particularly in the summer. I will say at the same time, that early peas ought to be planted—that is, a few which will help very much, and with oats and early peas, I get my horses in good order every year, in a month after I am done plowing. But let me make one remark before I quit, and it is that, yes sir, and corn cobs will not fatten a horse. It is one thing on the farm that I attend to personally, that is, to see my horses fed 3 times a day.

I am yours, respectfully,

W. BA.

July 2nd, 1857.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
Mississippi Swamp Lands.

MR. EDITOR:—I have seen in one of the *hand organ sermons* that has been going the rounds, the remark that, travelling over Jordan is a hard road to travel, which I do not doubt, but not having travelled that road, I can't say. But if it is any harder road than a writer for the agricultural press travels, a body ought to be "mighty well" prepared." Reading Mr. Sparrowgrass on "*South Carolina vs. Mississippi Swamp*," where I am roughly handled, forces me to say to the young writers, you had better cease your labors for the benefit of your fellows, than to be thus rudely dealt with. Why, Sparrowgrass, in the chapperell of course, behind a pine bush, fires at me with unlawful weapons, he using slugs, rusty nails, &c. But to the matter. He calls me in the very first paragraph, a "small man." Now is not this too bad—small man? Now whether a small man be a slur or a compliment, I am not prepared to say. I did not make myself, and do not know that I now care to be made any larger. But, by the way, as a man is not judged of in worth, as a Durham, or a Berkshire, or as even grass is, it may be I have some show to be considered rather more *valuable* than either.

But another shot, and the "slung shot" at that, about the middle of first column on 171 page, he *insinuates* that I came here rich and spent my patrimony. Oh, fie! Mr. Sparrowgrass. If you cannot use better arguments than these, the sons of my old school fellows will come out. Try it again. To this charge, allow me to say: The records in the Court House in Columbia, will show that my patrimony was spent before I got it. I never received from my father's estate, all told, over 5000 or 6000 dollars, and that was spent in clothing, schooling, board, travel, and a little

wildness, from 1821 to 1830. when I landed where I now write from, I was due my father's estate over \$1300, I think, and if my memory serves me, I had charged against me about \$6000. So, Mr. Sparrowgrass, you "mistake," "Dr. P." "was" not "in this category." The records here will prove I was sold out, *in part*, for security debt, though in fact, not a dollar was my own debt, though in most of it my name was principal. Besides, the land I now live upon, though *now* worth \$30 per acre, cash, was sold as my property, for \$1 per acre; negroes that cost \$1000 to \$1200, sold at \$300 to \$500, as a debt due me by a man apparently able to pay for thousands, was never paid, even to a cent of it; though one thing I am proud of, I was sold out, all given up.

This is the first time I have ever alluded to my private affairs, and I trust I will never again have occasion. It is mortifying, humiliating. Bad enough to have been broken up, sold out, misfortune, misplaced-confidence, and all that; but worse, to have one of the chivalry jeer at one thus situated. I never lost \$5 at games of chance, nor never was intoxicated from spirituous or malt liquors. But, Mr. Sparrowgrass, without being asked, I forgive! I think I know you, notwithstanding your mask, and I know you had no design or no cause to offend.

One thing more. In much of our swamp country, it is difficult to find stock water. I say this, to show—though called *swamp*—it is like that big Georgia swamp, a dry swamp.

Again, as to health, negroes are healthier than on the "Walnut Hills," or the earlier settled portions of Mississippi, and, perhaps, than even on "Little Branch" or Big Branch either, and I am quite sure, than on Smith's Branch (near Columbia).

I certainly have no desire to do harm to Carolina. No, no! I have labored to the contrary. But these times demand of us to look at a greater end than mere State pride. My object is, to give cotton bales more influence. I have no desire for discussion. What I wrote I will leave to the judgment of my people. I advise Sparrowgrass to post up. I lived in South Carolina some 26 and odd years, and know something of the Doctor's stuff I poured down me and others, and know somewhat of this.

Yours, truly, M. W. PHILLIPS.

P. S. Since writing the within, I have a letter from a large planter, who has settled a plantation in the bottom; he asks me to account to him how it is that his negroes enjoy



better health in the swamp, than they did on pine land; high, dry, rolling lands. Whether I can account for it or not, it is true. I have friends living in the swamp, who moved from the hills—three brothers in-law plant there, and it is invariably conceded, that negroes are healthier in the swamp. I also have seen an agricultural friend on his return home, he having bought some 2100 acres of land here, says he did not formerly credit reports, but having visited the swamp from Vicksburg to Memphis, is satisfied the swamp will even excell the “cane brake” of Alabama, Marengo County lands, the production of which he knows of. So you see, friend Seaborn, there are some men not afraid of “bug-a-boos.” He will move out 175 negroes in less than 3 years—so soon as he can prepare houses and open land.

Land is advancing rapidly.

Yours,

P.

Eog Hall, Miss., July 4, 1857.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
Enquiries.

MR. EDITOR—You will oblige me and many of my neighbors, if you can inform me at what stage of maturity the Chinese Sugar Cane should be cut for the purpose of making syrup; or in case you are not in possession of the information desired, cannot some of your numerous contributors give it? It is a subject of considerable interest, and a failure in the outset might operate very much against its ultimate success.

Will you be good enough to state, through your valuable journal, what quantity of the seed of the Panicum Germanicum would be proper to put on an acre of land, for the purpose of making hay?

You will confer a favor much desired, by giving the information contained in the above enquiries, yourself or through some of your correspondents.

Wheat crops have been unusually fine in this District; oats, tolerable; corn promises well at present, but it is something like a month later than ordinary seasons; cotton from three weeks to one month later than it generally is, and very small on low grounds, almost an entire failure. Wishing you success, and a large subscription list and prompt pay,

I am your most ob't serv't.

J. S. REID.

For the Farmer and Planter.

The Product of an Acre of Wheat.

MR. EDITOR:—At your request I will give you the product of an acre of wheat:

Product—37½ bushels.

Variety—Alabama.

Quantity sown—2 bushels.

Time sown—20th November.

Soil—Stiff lowground, on Seneca River.

Manure—About 40 bushels cotton seed.

Manner of putting in—Closely and deeply plowed with long, narrow subsoil gophers.

J. W. CRAWFORD.

Cold Spring, July 15th.

From the Journal.

MR. EDITOR:—In reading over the appeal made by the Executive Committee of your District Agricultural Society to the planters, I was struck by an allusion to the prevailing scarcity and high price of provisions. This is becoming daily a more serious matter, both to the producer and consumer. I mean particularly the home producer; for when bacon commands readily 15 to 18 cents per lb. cash—flour \$7 to \$8 per barrel—corn \$1 per bushel—oats, 75 cts. per bushel—fodder \$2.50 per hundred, and the supply is not equal to the demand, it becomes a question well worthy looking into, whether it would not be better policy to produce more of these necessities, than to depend on a foreign market. What is the cause? Is it because our lands are growing poorer—or is it because too much attention is directed to the growth of cotton? Is it because emigration has carried away too much of the bone and sinew of the country, and left only the large planters who can always take care of themselves, and that class who will always live, let things go as they may, at somebody's expence?

Let the cause be what it may, it is a matter of fact, that ten years ago a great many planters raised their own hogs, twenty years ago they raised their own horses and mules too.—They had full corn cribs; and so far as the prosperity of the country is concerned, my conviction is that no great improvement has taken place yet. Is it better to look these stubborn facts in the face, and take council together to decide whether we must retrace our steps, reform our system of agriculture, or pull up our stakes and move to this new Eldorado, now running the world mad, the Mississippi swamps. It will be sneeringly asked by all wiseacres, what can an Agricultural society do to better our condition? There is the great difficulty at the outset. Here is one, for instance who has been successful as the planter—he has bought up lands at \$5 to \$8 per acre; cut them down, and made large crops for a series of years. By dint of hard work, constant and rigid economy, making every edge cut, denying himself and his children even a newspaper, after 10 or 15 years he makes a fortune, builds a big white house on the roadside, buys a carriage for the girls, and sets himself up for a gentleman of intelligence. Ask him to take an Agricultural paper, or join an Agricultural Society, “all humbug,” he replies—he “never could make books and plowing run together,” &c. The



sneer of this successful planter has more weight than a hundred arguments, and the timid and doubting stand aloof from the Agricultural Society, as cautiously as they would from a case of small pox.

Now, if the old adage be true, that "all the fools are among the farmers," it is very well; for although it is said "two heads are better than one, even if one be a sheep's head," still counselling together might produce more mischief than good. But it is a little remarkable that all other professions are improved socially, intellectually and pecuniarily by the power of association. In no other profession is the fact admitted that the members of it are too wise to be taught, or too big fools to learn, but in Agriculture. In this profession or calling, a fellow is born to all he can attain as the cow is to eat grass, or the dog to run a rabbit. He is instinctively to plow and hoe, and reap and sow, just as his daddy did before him.

We live in a region well adapted to the production of grain, and it will be admitted that we can make crop grass if no other, and that makes an excellent hay. There are thousands of acres of swampy land in this district now worthless, which would produce with a little care any amount of swamp grass, Red top or Timothy, nevertheless, many persons are now feeding their horses on hay at \$2.50 per hundred, down in Maine or Massachusetts. Isn't it a pretty story to tell? A Farmer goes to the village and "puts up" at a Hotel, his horse fed on Yankee "freesoil hay," "buck eye" or Mountain corn, while he is working his grinders upon Cincinnati ham, Northern potatoes, Northern flour, his peas and beans and cabbage grown from Northern seed, and his very thirst allayed by Ice from the Kennebeck. If he wants a glass of brandy to put an edge on, he pays 12½ cents a spoonful for the luxury of drinking "4th Proof Cognac No. 1," manufactured in New York, out of Yankee rum, and other villainous compounds, which according to analysis, make every quart contain in disguise, enough sulphuric acid to eat through the coat of a man's stomach in five minutes. If a Temperance man, he refreshes himself upon Yankee lemon syrup, made out of cream of tartar and sugar and water, and if he be a highflyer, and wants an exhilarating time of it, should he call for champagne, he will be a lucky dog to find it sham or even good sham Newark cider.

I am an advocate for free trade, and by no means desire that any man should be his own butcher, his own shoemaker, tailor, hatter, &c., buy when you can buy cheapest, and sell when you can sell highest—that is the true policy.—But may not a people pursue a policy to an extreme point—may they not kill the goose in searching after the golden egg? In looking over a leading N. Y. Journal, I was struck with the view of the editor, commenting upon the destitution which prevailed in many of the S. States; he charges it to the exclusive devotion to cotton. Another paper of considerable sagacity, south of Mason and Dixon's line, attributes it to the "yearly encroachments which the cotton culture makes upon the area heretofore devoted to cereals, or to over exportation,

which the high prices that grain has commanded for the last two years have invited."

In truth, the farmers of the country are annually becoming less independent and more at the mercy of speculating capitalists. The moment that the "stocks on hand are disposed of," the newspapers of the country begin to be filled with promises of a golden harvest—you can see nothing but accounts of the "large breadths of land sown to grain, and the promise of an extraordinary yield; every thing is favorable.—The crop is harvested—there is a plethora; one county in Ohio or Illinois, has made almost enough to feed the world, and as soon as grain falls, it is taken up by speculators, and like magic before you have had time to think, transported by railroad to New York or other points, and soon you begin to hear of an average short crop of flour, wheat, corn, &c., run up to a high figure.

The facilities for transporting produce are so great, that the price now is regulated throughout the Union by the speculators of New York. So it is with pork, beef, butter, lard and all the necessities of life. Demand calls aloud from the farthest points—it is communicated by the telegraphic wires like magic, and supply responds at once. Hence the temptation to make money often induces a people to sell off to a margin not far above want. Such has been the case often when there was an abundance for the people's wants, if it had been retained, and will again. The laws of trade are inexorable, and will be obeyed, and as long as the agricultural interest makes no effort to protect itself from imposition and misrepresentation, it cannot well be otherwise. We have heard nothing for months past from all quarters south and south-west, but complaint of the crops. Frost killing, bad stands, backwardness, hail storms, floods, plowing up and planting in corn, have been the staple of all the communications of travelling correspondents, editorials, &c. It is almost time for the last bale of cotton to be cleared, and you will soon begin to hear of first blooms, "earliest ever known;" "the late weather has been remarkably favorable to cotton, and notwithstanding the unfavorable spring, we have every assurance of a bountiful harvest." These changes will be rung upon throughout all Yankeedom, and copied in the English journals, and cotton as usual will open at 8 or 10 cents, much to our wonder. Planters are a very sagacious, far sighted class.

X.

#### Cuban Sugar Plantation.

A correspondent of the Syracuse Courier gives the following interesting account of one of the largest sugar plantations in Cuba:

"This estate is very properly called the Flor de Cubas, (Flower of Cuba.) There are other estates as large and larger, but none that have such perfect machinery, and which have laid out so much money for that, and on buildings. There are about 1,000 acres of land, nearly three-quarters of which are under cultivation with sugar cane, the balance being devoted to grazing the plantain fields. The pro-



duct of this estate, of course, varies with different years; thus, last year, owing to the rains, they could not cut all their cane and it fell short, but its present average crop is 10,000 boxes and 1,000 hogsheads of sugar, and its gross income at present prices will be from \$320,000 to \$350,000. Of this enormous sum about one-half is absorbed by interest on its debt and by its annual expenses. There are 650 hands—350 negroes and 250 Chinese. The rest are overseers, cartmen, coopers, engineers, &c. There are 80 ox carts for drawing the cane to the mill, and 600 oxen, four being used to every cart, and they are relieved twice a day. There are many buildings in this village, for it is almost like one. Besides the sugar house, there is the dwelling houses for the owner and for the overseers, the drying houses, the hospital, the baracoons for the slaves, and even a nursery for the children of the slaves.

The sugar-house here is the principal attraction, and it is an enormous affair. It is all one floor and covered by a single roof, and its interior is somewhat similar to that of some of our large sugar refineries in New York. There are two large rolling mills for crushing the cane, each with three rollers six feet long, and placed on the top of two, the cane feeding itself and passing under one and over the other two rollers, it comes out squeezed almost dry, and as flat as a sheet of paper, the juice runs down into troughs. These rollers are set very close, within an eighth of an inch of each other, and the pressure is enormous. To drive these rollers there is an engine of fifty horse power. The juice then is carried by pumps to a set of fourteen kettles, where by steam it is condensed, and then it runs through a body of carbon or burnt bone in another set of cisterns; it is then carried to a vacuum pan, where it is evaporated, then over a set of copper pipes for condensation, again through the charcoal for decoloring, then into another vacuum pan, where it is boiled to a crystalizing point. It is then carried off to another part of the building, and by copper ladles is emptied into the sugar moulds, holding about sixty pounds each, where in another day it is ready for claying. This process is only followed where it is intended to make box sugar, which is always clayed, while that packed in hogsheads is called muscovado, and is packed into the casks in a green state, where it is then allowed to purge itself for fifteen or twenty days, and is then ready for shipment.

On this estate they make mostly clayed or box sugar, and the process of claying is this:—The moulds containing the green sugar are placed on a long floor in a room holding from 800 to 1,000 moulds; the point of the mould is below the level of the floor, which is made with square holes for their support: after the sugar has set in the moulds the plug at the bottom is taken out, and on the base or upper flat surface of the sugar is placed a quantity of black pasty clay, which has the property of distributing the water very equally through it. This clay is wet and the water filters slowly through the body of the sugar, carrying with it all color and leaving the base of the cone perfectly

white. This process is repeated several times and the sugar is kept in this house for about twenty days. It is then turned out of the moulds into large open, flat, wooden trays, and the different layers of strata of sugar are divided by a negro with a large cleaver into white, brown and yellow, that nearest the point is still colored with molasses and not very dry.—These several classes are all kept by themselves, and the sugar is dried either by the sun or by ovens, and then packed into boxes holding about 400 pounds each. These are then nailed and strapped by pieces of green cow-hide in narrow strips, the boxes weighed, branded, and ready for transport to market.—*Mercury.*

#### The Fish Experiment—Propagation and Domestication of Fish—Visit to Drs. Garlick and Ackley's Fish Nursery, near Cleveland, Ohio.

The artificial reproduction and cultivation of fish, has for some time been practiced in parts of Europe. In France it is now carried on to considerable extent, and the produce of some of the streams and ponds, yield large profits.—

The subject is now attracting some attention in the United States. The New York State Agricultural Society, in their last premium list, have offered a prize of \$100 for the best essay on the "Production and Preservation of Domestic Fish for Ponds."

Garlick and Ackley, known as distinguished surgeons of Cleveland, Ohio, were the first, we believe, to introduce the artificial spawning and domestication of fish in the United States.\* Dr. Garlick being an enthusiastic in this line, commenced the business in connection with his associate, Dr. Ackley, upon the farm of the latter, two or three years ago. They made several trips to Lake Superior and Fort Stanley, in Canada, to procure trout for stocking their streams, and in every instance were successful, except the first, when they lost a large number of fish in transportation.

After this, with personal attention, they found that by reducing the temperature of the water in the vessels containing the fish, to 32 degrees, by the application of ice, the respiration and circulation in fish was so reduced that they experienced no difficulty in transporting them any distance with perfect success. In this way they have procured at times, 150 full grown trout.

Feeling an interest in the success of this enterprise, and while visiting Cleveland a short time since, we called on Drs. Garlick and Ackley, who very kindly conveyed us to the farm and fish nursery, situated about three miles from the city. The farm contains about 100 acres; through the timbered portion of it runs a ravine, abundantly supplied with never-failing streams of water. Across this ravine, dams have been built so as to form 3 ponds, connected by sluice ways between. In the upper pond

\*We have shown, in previous numbers of this journal, that our venerable friend, Dr. BACHMAN, of Charleston, commenced the artificial production of Fish many years prior to the experiments of Drs. GARLICK and ACKLEY.—Eds. *Southern Cultivator.*



the young trout are confined by netting across the sluice. The second ponds are destined for the fish after they have become so large as to be able to protect themselves from the voracious appetite of the elder fish of their race.

At the head of a large spring, and near the upper pond, is situated the hatching house.—In this house is a tank four feet wide by eight feet long and two feet deep. The water is received from the spring into this tank, and is discharged from a pipe near the top into the hatching boxes, ten in number, and so arranged that the first is higher in the series than the last, so that there is a constant stream passing from the tank above, through the two hatching boxes. In this tank we saw the *old pet* fish, "*Naiad Queen*," the prolific mother of thousands.—Her mate "*Triton*," like his sex sometimes in other departments of animated nature, had become somewhat unruly, and had been assigned his abode, for the time being, in one of the ponds with the family at large. Our friends have so educated and trained the old queen that she has become as tame as a pet chicken, and ate minnows from our fingers readily.—This fish was taken from the tank and placed in a pan for inspection. She is like all of this family, truly beautiful. She measures about seventeen inches in length. Her weight we now forget, but with careful feeding can be increased with astonishing rapidity. We were presented by the gentlemanly proprietors with a most beautiful engraving of her.

It is the intention of these gentlemen to have some of the old and a number of the young fish on exhibition at the Ohio State Fair the coming fall. The display of domesticated Salmon and Trout, it is said, constituted a most interesting feature at the great National Exhibition recently closed in France.

Dr. Garlick is now engaged in writing a series of articles on the "Artificial Reproduction of Fish," which appear in the Ohio Farmer. They will finally be published in book form, and will, no doubt, prove of immense value to farmers and others who now own streams and ponds in this country.

In every State in the Union, and in almost every country, there are numerous springs and streams that, with comparative little labor, may be turned to profitable account for the production of fish.

Where brisk, cool springs are not to be found suited for trout, ponds exist adapted to various other kinds of fish that delight in such water. In a day's ride through some sections of the country, we have frequently met with a dozen springs and streams that might be employed in this way. In France, and other countries of Europe, not only trout and many other kinds of still-water fish are propagated to a great extent, but salmon by thousands are reared to full size in a very short time. In the northern and eastern sections of our country, but more particularly near the Northern Pacific coasts, numerous places abound, most admirably adapted to salmon. It is said that a thousand lbs. of fish in proper places can be produced at a tithe of the cost of raising an equal quantity of meat.—*Louisville (Ky.) Courier.*

#### Department News---State Department.

**COTTON.**—The following extract relating to the supply of cotton, is taken from the communication, dated June 12, of a correspondent residing in Manchester:—*Mercury.*

"There is a very serious concern observable in all departments of business in regard to the question of cotton supply. The increasing demand for cotton goods, especially in the English colonies, presses the subject with severe force on the attention of the British Government. From a careful survey of the movements now being made at London, Liverpool, and Manchester, I do not think the United States have anything to fear on the subject.—Experience has demonstrated that the East India cotton is too short and the West India cotton too long for profitable use by the established manufacturing interest. The staple is not so strong as the American, and will always occupy a second place in the European markets. In fact, the sale of cotton at any price depends on the American article, into which the former is interwoven to make it of use at all. The demand for the manufactured article, and the capacity to supply the raw material, must, of course, decide the interest of the spinner. The orders for the fabric call for a certain description of goods, which can only be made from American cotton. The taste of the market is thus fixed, and cannot be altered until time and experience demonstrate that a better and cheaper article is offered in competition to that produced from the American staple.

"If the 'Cotton Supply Association' succeed in growing cotton in India, they must appear eventually in the markets of the world with the fabric for buyers. The real difficulty, and the fatal one, will then appear. The purchaser will seek to gain by the competition, and the English seller will either have to offer a very superior article at an equal price or an inferior article at a greatly reduced price. The English manufacturers, by excluding American cottons entirely from their mills, will simply enable the manufacturers of other countries to buy their stocks at such reduced prices as to undersell them in every market in the world. If, on the other hand, England continues to buy from us, she must continue to do so under the present excess of consumption over production. So far as working short time is concerned, it is a serious question whether it is not a necessity of 'supply' rather than of 'price.'

"The cotton necessary for working 'full time' with present reduction of 'stocks,' cannot certainly be furnished by America. That is now admitted in Europe in the best-informed quarters. The deficiency must come from some other source, and the supply, from whatever source it may come, will not take the place of American cotton, at least immediately. Time will prove if it will do so at all.

"The prospect of good harvests, and the favorable condition of trade in Indian, China, and throughout the East, are producing the natural consequence in trade at Manchester. The contemplated reduction of the rate of interest in the city of Paris is considered by ma-



ny as an artificial measure, decided on by Government to effect the elections. Whether the suggestion be correct or not, it is to be observed that the general rate of interest in Germany and other parts of Europe is lower than that established by the Bank of England, which is nearly equal to the usual commercial rates for money in the United States money market.

"The opinion most to be relied upon in Manchester is, that cotton will not be lower unless there should be an unusual yield of the coming crop. If the next crop should be largely over three millions of bales, the active demand, early in the season, of those who, not wishing to hazard the risk of a falling off in the supply, prefer to purchase, on the first appearance of the new crop, will maintain a steady price to the American holder until the extent of the crop is absolutely ascertained; any surplus would be necessary to supply the stock on hand, now almost exhausted in all European markets."

#### Building in Frosty Weather.

The bond which unites brick to brick and stone to stone, to form a close and adhesive connection between them, is a cement (mortar) formed of the oxyd of calcium (lime), silica or sand, and water. The water intimately diffused through mortar is the vehicle which plays the most important office—chemically speaking—in conferring those qualities upon mortar which render it capable of fulfilling the objects for which it is used. And yet most builders, architects, and those who have buildings erected during the winter season, appear to be entirely ignorant of this fact in chemical science.

The water in mortar holds lime in solution, and gradually attracts carbonic acid from the atmosphere, whereby its particles acquire powerful cohesive and adhesive properties, and in the course of time it becomes a stone itself, firmly adhering to the surfaces which it unites. If we dissolve some quicklime in water, in a vessel, and allow it to stand exposed for some hours, it will attract carbonic acid from the atmosphere, and a thin, hard scale like ice will form on its surface; this is a pelicle of marble—it is composed of lime, water and carbonic acid. The scale formed on the surface of the lime solution in the vessel, prevents carbonic acid penetrating under it, otherwise a thick solution of lime would soon become a solid block of marble. But in common mortar the conditions for the absorbing of carbonic acid throughout all its parts, are very perfect, because the particles of sand render it sufficiently porous to allow the air, which contains carbonic acid, to penetrate to its inmost parts; therefore, mortar ultimately becomes a stone. If we take quicklime and sand, mixed together in proper proportions to form good cement, but use no water to make them into mortar, exposure of them to the atmosphere for centuries would not form them into a hard stone, because the water of crystalization, which is positively necessary to promote cohesion among their par-

ticles, is wanting. Water, then, is the great vehicle which chiefly imparts cohesive properties to common mortar.

Hard water, in freezing, parts with the mineral and earthy matters which it holds in solution, and the ice, when melted by heat, forms soft water; the action of freezing separates the pure water from the substances with which it was previously intimately united. The very same effect is produced by the action of freezing mortar in the walls of buildings; the mortar that is frozen in walls never afterwards acquires strong cohesive properties.

It is customary to suspend operations on buildings of brick and stone, during very severe frosts, when mortar freezes rapidly, but this is only because of the mechanical difficulties of applying the mortar before it freezes; the chemical science involved in the act of freezing its water being either unknown or ignored. Mortar should never be allowed to freeze in the walls of buildings; to allow it to do so, is unwise and unscientific.—*Scientific American.*

From the Valley Farmer.

#### Advice to Young Farmers—No. 3.

DIVISION OF THE FARM.

When the farm is located, before a blow is struck or any labor performed, it should be laid off into fields, of convenient size and form, and if possible these fields should be separated by good fences. The first work on the farm should be done by system, that it be not lost, nor badly done. In dividing the farm, care should be taken to observe all the natural divisions, such as high and low ground, wet and dry, clay and loam soils, &c., where such exist. If the soil is all alike, then the division should be for convenience and good culture.—A low, wet piece of ground, adjoining one high and dry, ought to be separated from it, so the two can be cultivated according to the requirements of each, so that stock can be kept on one when it is improper that it should go upon the other.

One of the objects of a proper division of the farm is, *convenience*. Any field can be used for pasture or meadow which may be chosen. Or stock can be kept for any length of time and then taken out. Any field can be fed early or late. The fall feed can be given to the stock, or let rot upon the ground. Stock can be separated, the old from the young, horses from cattle, sheep from all. A change of pasture is often desirable. A particular field should not be pastured too long. There should be rotation in pastures as well as rotation in crops.—In broken countries, where much of the land can be used only for pasturing, such a rotation cannot well be practiced; but in much of the West every part of the farm is tillable, and a change of pasture becomes one part of good farming. The fields should be arranged so as to be convenient to get to from the house and barn, as well as from some road. So far as possible, it is desirable to have water in every field, and gates or bars to make them easy of ingress and egress.

The second object in a division of the farm



is, to *facilitate good farming*. To farm with no respect to the principle of rotation of crops, is to farm at random. To plant one piece of ground every year to corn; to sow another as regularly to wheat; a third to oats; to use a fourth as meadow; a fifth to pasture, and so on to the end of the chapter of crops, is one of the best ways to spoil a farm and have poor crops. So it is one of the most successful ways to degrade agriculture and get small profits. It is best to change crops every year. No matter if the soil will produce the same crop for several years. You are weakening its productive qualities. You are exhausting some of its elements. You are killing when you ought to be vitalizing it. If the young farmer will begin right he will not only save, but improve his farm; not only cultivate it well, but cultivate himself. Good farming reflects back upon the farmer. It does him good. It affords a sort of school in which his powers of mind may be trained. It is one of the best schools of life, and always has and always will turn out a class of noble men.

A third object of the division of a farm is, its *value*. It increases the value of the farm. It adds to its beauty and utility, makes it easier to cultivate, and in many ways enhances its value. The number of fields should be as much as six or eight, besides the garden and orchard, which should be fenced by themselves. If all cannot be fenced at once, let the divisions be properly made and fence as fast as may be, one or two fields a year till the work is completed. It is best to begin well. As Crocket says, "be sure you're right, then go ahead." \*

From the Cotton Planter and Soil.

#### Maxims for Young Farmers and Overseers!

DR. CLOUD—*Dear Sir*: The following ten maxims are respectfully dedicated to young planters and overseers, in the hope that in this day of agricultural progress they may effect some good:

##### FOR YOUNG FARMERS.

1. As soon as you have planted your crop, be sure and make a calculation how much you will make. If you have made liberal allowances for bad seasons, sickness, and such like subtractions, you will probably be not more than two-thirds over the mark; but then, you will have had all the pleasure of anticipation, and you can easily convince yourself that your arithmetic was right, if something else was wrong.

2. Be sure not to plow deep. Geologists say the earth is a hollow globe, and you might get through the crust. Besides, if the current philosophy be true, that the interior is liquid fire, you might get your feet burnt.

3. The old adage that "time is money" may do well for the face of a Yankee clock, but is altogether beneath the philosophy of *Young America*. Therefore, lie in bed till your breakfast is ready, and be sure to go a fishing every Saturday evening. Your corn and cotton will grow as well while you sleep, as when you are awake; and if the grass grows too, who cares for grass?

4. Scientific agriculturists make a great

noise about *rotation of crops*. Don't believe a word they say. "*Rotation of crops*," indeed!! Wonder if the rotation of the waggon wheel don't land in a mud hole at last? *But who?*—Every body knows that good land makes more cotton than poor land—so continue to plant your best field in cotton as long as you please. If it wears out, you can go to Texas.

5. As you value your future prospects in life, and your reputation as a physiologist, never suffer a curry-comb to scratch the sides of your mules. It wears them out, (*the curry-combs*) and curry-combs cost money. If the pores of their skin should be clogged up with dust, they can rub themselves against a tree or the corner of the fence; and everybody knows there is a glorious luxury in scratching!

##### FOR OVERSEERS.

6. If you are an overseer, and a young one at that, look sour at your negroes the first day, and kick up a general row the second. Africans are nothing but brutes, and they will love you the better for whipping, whether they deserve it or not. Besides, by this manly course you will show your spunk. To be sure, a half dozen of them may take to the woods, but that is no loss to you.

7. Be sure to make your office a sinecure.—Congressmen, Judges, and civil officers generally, do so, and why may not overseers? To this end, ride once in the forenoon to where you can see your hands, and then gallop off to some store, blacksmith's shop, or wherever you can find a crowd to listen to your interesting conversation. This is the only way "to magnify your office."

N. B.—Whatever, also, you may neglect, never forget to put yourself in the *possessive case* in regard to your employer's property—say "*my negroes, my mules, my cotton*," &c. Your employer is a lazy skunk, and has no right to any thing.

8. Swear like "our army in Flanders," yourself; but whip every negro on the plantation who dares to use profane language—the *ebony scamps*, what right have they to imitate their overseer?

9. If your horse becomes lame, or from any other cause cannot carry you, as in No. 7, seek some "boundless contiguity of shade," where you can enjoy a comfortable snooze—nothing like "*otium cum dignitate*."

10. If your employer desires you to plant his cotton or corn in a manner different from that which you think best, be sure to spoil every thing, in its cultivation. You will then prove to him that his plans are wrong, and yours right.

CLOD THUMPER.

January, 1857.

##### Farm Implements.

To use that old plow longer is bad economy. repairs have already come to more than the original cost, and still, it is an old, rickety plow. It always did "ran to land" too much, and always will, perplexing the plowman and fretting the team. It has a radical defect past all cure of inventor or mechanic. Do not work with heavy, uncouth implements—they drag



down the body like a perpetual sorrow upon the mind. Boys often acquire a disgust for farming, merely from the miserable implements placed in their hands. The lighter the tool, the better, if strong enough for the work for which it was intended. The workman who uses his shovel to pry up a stone, and breaks it, should be required to pay for it, and the next time, if not incorrigibly lazy, he will probably use the bar. Use light rakes, made of good material, and so of hoes, spades, scufflers, and all other implements. We have beaten the English in the construction of our agricultural implements, in their adaptation to the work required of them.—*N. E. Farmer.*

#### Beet Root Vinegar.

In these times of a scarcity of apples and cider, the following statement made by N. P. Fairbanks in the "Boston Cultivator" is worth considering. He says:—The juice of one bushel of sugar beets, worth twenty-five cents, and which any farmer can raise with little cost, will make from five to six gallons of vinegar, equal to the best made of cider or wine. First, wash and grate the beets, and express the juice in a cheese-press or in any other way which a little ingenuity can suggest, and put the liquor into a barrel; cover the bung with gauze and set it in the sun, and in fifteen or twenty days it will be fit for use. By this method the very best of vinegar can be obtained without any great trouble, and I hope all who like good vinegar will try it.

As this may readily be tried by almost any one, we hope to hear from some of our friends on the subject next winter.—*Farm Journal.*

From the Washington States, June 10.

#### Supply of Tea, Coffee, Sugar, and Cotton.

The universal consumption of tea, coffee, sugar, and cotton, throughout the civilized world, is in advance of the means of supply, although new fields of production have been opened in the last half century. Thus, coffee-growing commenced in Brazil only half a century ago, and Brazil now supplies two-thirds of the coffee of the world. The culture of cotton commenced in the United States within the memory of those living, and a large part of the civilized world is supplied with fabrics made from cotton of American growth. New sources for all the products above named are eagerly sought, but as yet without much success.—The United States is likely to take the monopoly of cotton-growing, and at enhancing prices. But we, at the same time, are subjected to the increasing cost of coffee, sugar, and tea; which articles are as indispensable to our comfort as cotton is to that of the whole world.

It is alleged that the tea-plant will thrive in the United States, anywhere south and west of Pennsylvania; and it is hastily inferred that the United States can supply its own tea, and also become an exporter of it. But, in the production of tea, labor is the chief element; and that is wanting in this country. In the non-slave-holding States labor is so costly that it

has checked the ordinary product of bread-stuffs and provisions, in the supply of which there has been, for several years past, a deficiency.

In the slaveholding States, we see that laborers are in great demand at double the prices they brought a few years ago, and that the production of Southern staples is checked by the limited supply of labor. To introduce the tea culture, in this state of things, into the United States, would be impracticable.

Brazil produces tea of a good quality, and the planters who have attempted its culture think that they will be able to make it as profitable as the culture of coffee. But they commenced their experiments with Chinese laborers, and, if they continue the culture, it must be by introducing and establishing a population of Chinese. The price of slaves has been enhanced in Brazil as much as the United States, and the foreign supply has been cut off—to divert which from the culture of coffee to that of tea, would only increase the price of the former article.

The English, looking to the possible loss of the tea trade in China, through the troubles in that empire, have undertaken the culture of tea by native labor in India, and are now likely to meet with better success in it than in the cotton culture.

India, may, perhaps, add to the tea product, and Africa ought to afford a large addition to the annual coffee crop. But sugar is destined to rise in price, unless we can find a substitute for it through the experiments which are being made with the Chinese and African saccharine plants.

#### Strawberry, Asparagus and Pie Plant Beds.

Those who have been so unwise as to set their strawberry plants the present fall instead of spring, will do well to give the ground a good covering of old broken straw, or leaves from the woods; if neither of these are convenient, old tan bark will answer, but we greatly prefer either of the former. Old stable manure containing a large quantity of straw is also very excellent, if it can be procured free from the seeds in the hay, but this cannot always be had. The mulching protects the young roots of the plants from the effects of the severe frosts, prevents the plants from being drawn up by the thawing and freezing, and keeps the ground from being packed by the heating rains of winter.

Old beds or those that were planted in the spring, should also have a light dressing of one, or the other of these materials, and no time should be lost in making the application. These fall dressings will cause the plants in the spring to start with more strength and vigor and to yield a larger and better crop of fruit.

Asparagus beds now require cleaning off, by cutting all the weeds and old stems of the plants and carefully raking and sweeping off the seeds that fall, that they may not vegetate in the beds and form new plants to the injury of the old roots. After the beds are thus cleaned off, a good coating of stable manure should be



spread over them to remain until spring, when the coarser parts should be raked off and the remainder be carefully forked under. This treatment is indispensable, if a good, permanent bed of strong plants is expected.

The Pie plant should be treated in a similar manner, only the manure should be applied more liberally, and should be placed more directly around every plant.—*Valley Farmer.*

#### Old Tan Bark for Manure.

J. J. W., of Tennessee, asks: Is spent tan bark good for manure? Yes: It is valuable applied in many ways. As a manure alone it can hardly be compared with peat, because of the larger amount of gallic and other acids it contains, but with an admixture of lime these are in some degree neutralized. The most profitable way in which old tan bark can be employed is, as an absorbent of the liquid manures in the stables and yards. If a supply is kept constantly on hand and placed so as to absorb the urine from the cattle and horses in the stables, and changed as soon as it becomes saturated, it will be found equal to the best stable manure.

If applied directly from the yard, with the addition of a little lime, it will be found not only valuable as manure, but on heavy clay soils its mechanical effect is important. Unless it can be obtained in large quantities, we should prefer to apply it for mulching fruit trees, raspberry vines, grape vines, strawberry plants, and the like. An application to all of these except the strawberry, to the depth of from three to six inches, will prove very beneficial, particularly in dry seasons, which seem now to prevail. When applied to strawberries, one or two inches is sufficient.

In countries where manure is in great demand, it is sometimes charred in the same way that peat is, and used in stables as we have recommended above. In this form it will answer a better purpose on light porous soils than when applied uncharred. If within reasonable hauling distance, we would recommend you to apply in some of the forms we have mentioned, all you can get.—*Valley Farmer.*

From the Valley Farmer.

#### Farming by Rule.

If farming is a science and a trade, as we believe, then it ought to be done by rule. It has a system in principle and ought to have in practice. There is a time, a place and a way for everything connected with the business. And the best success is to be found in practicing the best system. Farming is like housekeeping or school-teaching, or manufacturing, in this respect, if it is not done systematically, it is done to a great disadvantage. There is a waste and loss at all ends and all corners. The waste in time is very great. The waste in material is much. The waste in produce is not a little.

How many farmers there are who do everything by guess or at random. They plow all soils alike for all crops. They sow when they happen to get ready, whether the season, the

soil, or the weather is right. They have no idea of the size of their fields nor the quantity of seed they put on to the acre. They guess it is about right. They have no system of rotation of crops; no plan for saving manures or fertilizing their soil; no way of draining; or of feeding to do their stock the most good with the least feed. The road is their cow yard and pasture. The door yard is their hog pen. A rail fence is their only gate. Their fowls are everywhere where they ought not to be, destroying and wasting. Their tools, carriages and harness are always out of order, and generally exposed to the sun and rain. Their stock is wandering they know not where. Their fences are fast going down or fast going to ruin. Unruly horses, hogs and cattle are often breaking in where they ought not to be. Fence corners and headlands are growing up with briars and brush. Orchards are untrimmed; gardens are neglected. Weeds grow; crops fail; stock die; tools break; family gets sick; expenses multiply; profits diminish; spirits flag; home becomes unhappy; who can tell what does not follow that is miserable? All this may be avoided by systematic farming. Every merchant knows that if his business is not done in order and in time, he is the loser. The mechanic knows the same thing. The farmer ought to know it. In no business is system more requisite than in farming. The farmer has to do with fixed laws. They must be obeyed or he or his crops suffer. Order is heaven's first law; so it should be the farmer's. \*

*Swallows against Flies.*—While on a late visit to a friend's residence in the country, we were most agreeably surprised at finding an unusual scarcity of flies, mosquitoes, and the whole tribe of winged nuisances which have there, in years past, warred against the peace and comfort of both bipeds and quadrupeds. The change was readily accounted for upon learning the following facts:

Last May, about one hundred and fifty swallows made their appearance and commenced building their nests under the eaves of a new log barn. As soon as their operations were discovered, a cleat was nailed along the boards, which were painted, and thus better facilities afforded the swallows for attaching their nests. Thus encouraged, the whole feathered company at once set to nest building, and in three weeks time, between seventy and eighty of these mud fabrics were completed; and in about one month more, each of these was occupied by from three to six tenants. Your readers can easily conceive of the immense sacrifice of insect life required to feed such a numerous company. The result has been as before stated. Add to this, the joyous warblings from these feathered songsters, and what a contribution of pleasure and comfort!

To legislatures in general and the whole community in particular, we say, encourage bird raising. Don't suffer wanton sportsmen to enter your fields, and prey upon these friends of man and beast. Show your regard for your own and the welfare of the community by sparing the birds.—*Traveller.*



From the Valley Farmer.  
Colds.

Some people are prone to have colds. All people have colds occasionally. They are so common that every body knows what they are and what sensations attend them. They are occasioned chiefly by heats, indoor confinements, hot foods and drinks, warm rooms and sudden exposures. They lead to many fevers, rheumatisms, consumptions, neuralgies and other diseases; and in many ways weaken and injure many constitutions. They should be avoided as one would avoid the cholera or small pox.—And as soon as taken should be attended to and broken up. Especially in children should they be broken up at once. They often plant the seeds of early disease and decay in children. Many parents loose their children early, and wonder why, and yet they often have severe colds, long and lasting.

The best way to manage a cold is to sweat it out at the beginning, and then be very prudent for a few days, about exposure diet exercise, &c. One takes cold much easier when fatigued. When the system is full of health and strength, and its habits regular and right, it never takes cold, whatever be the changes of the weather. Colds may be entirely avoided, and this by healthy living; that is, good diet, never above milk warm, regular and proper habits, regular bathing, fresh air, good exercise, avoidance of all kinds of excesses, sleep enough, cheerful spirits, warm and dry feet and a general prudence against exposures.

Every mother should know how to manage colds, and especially how to avoid them. Children should be much in the open air, often bathed, well clad and fed, sleep in cool, fresh air, use only cool drinks, at least none hot, and play and exercise all they wish. One of the secrets of healthy children is good management against colds. It is not cold weather that gives colds. On the contrary cold is the best preventive of colds, cold air, cold bathings, cold rooms, &c. Everything hot prepares the systems for colds, by opening the pores, occasioning sweat, relaxing the muscles and over exciting the nerves. Too warm clothes is especially to be avoided. Attention to the subject is one thing needed. \*

*The Cotton Crop.*—The following is an extract of a letter from a highly respectable Sea Island planter, of St. Luke's Parish, dated May 1st, '57.

"I have finished all my planting and am as fortunate as any, and more so, perhaps, than many, in the condition of my crop generally; but we have had the most extraordinary and unpropitious season for planting that I have ever experienced. There has been no scarcity of rain for all purposes, but every shower, I believe, has been succeeded by a day or two of cold weather, and the worm has been very destructive to the cotton, even before it has sprouted above the surface.

"I have just completed the replanting over of one hundred acres of cotton, and will have, I suppose, to supply as liberally the balance of the crop, so soon as it shall be up sufficiently to ascertain its broken condition."

One of the Roads to Crime.

One of the surest methods of making criminals is to degrade labor and pay undue respect to wealth. Men will run any risks to gain a position in society. The recent disclosures in the case of Huntington, Tuckerman, and other similar delinquents in this country; of Sadlier, Robson, Redpath, and others in England and France, prove that the desire to appear well in society, to be ranked among the happy few who live without labor and indulge in the elegancies of life, is one of the strongest incentives to crime. And it must be noticed, for the fact is painfully evident, that the false spirit of aristocracy which reverences mere wealth and scorns honest labor, is becoming alarmingly prevalent among us. It is time that the Press and the Pulpit, and every other instrument for modifying opinion, and producing a moral effect, were employed in checking the growing evil in question. It is especially the duty of parents to instill into the minds of their children just ideas on the true dignity of labor, and the worthlessness of mere extrinsic show; for the child that has been taught to regard wealth as the standard of excellence, and honest labor is degrading, will run a narrow risk of ending his days on the gallows or in the cells of a prison. A few nights since, a little child of some ten years, who should have been as guileless and innocent as a cherub, on being requested to dance with another child of her own age, shrugged up shoulders, and in her childish way, positively refused. On being asked why she hesitated, she said she couldn't dance with the other little girl because her father was a captain of a steamboat. Of course the little creature was taught to regard the captain of a steamboat with disdain, and probably look upon the children of all mechanics as below her, or she would not have dreamed of making such an excuse. It would require no gift of prophecy to foresee what must be the inevitable termination of a life which is commenced with such false ideas of what should constitute true claims to honor and respect.

[New York Times.]

*Scarlet Fever and Small Pox.*—Dr. William Fields, of Wilmington, gives publicity to the following receipt which he says, if faithfully carried out, will cure forty-five cases out of fifty, without calling on a physician:

*Scarlet Fever*—For adults, give one table spoonful of good brewer's yeast in three table spoonful of sweetened water, three times a day; and if the throat is much swollen, gargle with yeast, and apply to the throat as a poltice mixed with Indian meal. Use plenty of catnip tea, to keep the eruptions out of the skin for several days.

*Small Pox*—Use the above doses of yeast three times a day and a milk diet throughout the entire disease. Nearly every case can be cured, without leaving a pock mark.—*Exchange.*

The master's eye will do more work than both his hands.



For the Farmer and Planter.

**"Olla Podrida."**

MR. EDITOR:—The reply of Rigmarole to my critique upon his first article, is in such good temper and smacks so much of candor, that I must touch him up again for the good of the cause. One who can wield a pen so well, should always use it more cautiously than to allow it to be turned against himself. "It is the duty of every member who has his opinions, to offer them for the good of the whole; and let them receive such consideration as they deserve;" but, my dear sir, do you address the Society when you publish a paper declaring yourself disaffected and disappointed as to the past, and doubtful as to the future. Say what you please to the Society or its organ—the Executive Committee—but do not furnish the enemies of improvement, the doubters and the carpers, with weapons for your own destruction. "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Rigmarole's article contained hints innuendos that fair play had not been practiced. A direct charge can be met, but innuendos and suspicions cannot, always; and I regret to see that Rigmarole could not now lay down his pen (after assuring us that he, presumed the Executive Committee were devoting themselves laboriously and conscientiously" in a "noble, patriotic cause"), without casting a suspicion upon the Committee's course. If the Executive Committee have been intentionally guilty of a wrong towards any member, the humblest of the Society, or of favoritism towards any one, much less one of their own body, I am for an expose at once.

But a word or two as to Rigmarole's system: 1st, I was not aware that "the present system had accomplished its mission." I was rather under the impression we had just begun. Now, according to R.'s system as to milk cows, who would take the premium? Would not all the advantages tend to benefit those nearest Columbia? Could any man from the back country drive a cow safely to Columbia and compete with one which had been kept up to the mark for months? Rigmarole might say, let the competitors report the size of cow, quality and value of food, quantity of milk, &c. Why, this would lead to endless confusion, and put it in the power of the biggest liar to take the biggest premium. It would settle nothing, for you cannot make men believe incredible stories. I can find a dozen men who will make oath that they don't believe the crops of corn or wheat for which premiums

were awarded at the last Fair, were ever made on the ground, and still they have read the report and the vouchers. Rigmarole admits that Devons are better adapted to some localities, Durhams to others, &c. Well, suppose A produces certificates of a common cow—a dun moo'y—which gave, upon broomsedge pasture, 8 quarts rich milk at a milking, or 15 quarts per day. B produces certificates of a Grade Durham that, with the slop from the kitchen, added to the broomsedge pasture, yielded 20 quarts per diem. C produces certificates of a full Durham that, on a clover lot and kitchen slop, yields 32 quarts per diem, &c. Who can decide *ceteris paribus* ("don't print this in Agricola's copy), which is the better cow. A says, my cow costs me nothing. B says, my kitchen slop is of no use; and C says, it is better economy to have one acre set in clover, than to graze over 10 for the same quantity of much poorer milk.

The object of the Society, I take it, is to bring out before the agriculturists of the country, every variety of animal, laying claims to any kind of merit, and thus giving an opportunity for individuals to compare and select for themselves. No man is content to be governed by the report of another, and I will venture to say, that R., in selecting his full blood Stallion, his Devon Bull, &c., in Potts Cove, consulted his own judgment as to what would suit his surroundings. When I chance to be in his "surroundings" (which, by the way, I think a capital word), I will drop in and give him, very soon, my opinion of the adaptability of his various breeds to my latitude.

Rigmarole, in his strictures upon the premiums for the field crops, conveys an insinuation unworthy of the Executive Committee. The object of the Executive Committee, I take it, was to induce planters to devote more attention and a greater area to the cereals. A planter who will bestow the necessary pains and labor upon 50 acres of wheat to secure a \$30 premium, deserves it, whether he be rich or poor—riches should no more be a disqualification of merit than poverty.

I have as great a dread of humbugs as Rigmarole, but I have lived long enough to find out that abuse of it is the life of it. It is a Paixhan gun, however, in proper hands—let us take hold of it and turn it upon the enemies of improvement, until we can make a breach in that old fortress, where ignorance sits so stolidly entrenched.

As to "Agricola," I have nothing to say—his



has lost his temper and pitched back my latin into me so strong, that I would fain be quick "pro tempore." Whenever I need a "*pons asinorum*" to get me out of my dangerous position of "half an adversary," I shall apply for it to some friend who has a dictionary of quotations, or less horror of latin. HOTCH POTCH.

For the Farmer and Planter.

#### Rail Roads, Crops, &c., in the Up-Country.

The Greenville and Columbia Rail Road is in a better condition than we found it twelve months ago. We noticed some strong bridges erected over streams, where there were trestles before, and we feared more were soon to be built. The travelling was generally more pleasant in consequence of the better or heavier iron being substituted for that with which the tract was first laid.

The crops along the valley of Broad River with but few exceptions, are indifferent in consequence of the drought which has prevailed through the month of June to present date, (20th of July.) From Alston to Laurens C. H., they are better than we expected to see them; they have had frequent showers, except in the neighborhood of Jalappa. In that region, corn and cotton looked as if the *Ipomoea Jalappa* had been administered in no small doses, and without the water-cure (and with a little iron or steel) be speedily adopted, "it will be a case." Cotton is generally backward, and all of us expressed an opinion, that a short crop would be the result, except one passenger interested in the cotton trade. We were almost persuaded to quit the old red hills of mother Carolina, whilst we listened to the wonderful production of corn and cotton raised in the far west. If I mistake not, the hands were said, upon an average, to pick 600 pounds of seed cotton per diem, and to make from 10 to 15 bales of 400 pounds. I thought it was like the average of the Dutchman's hog, viz.: *one mit anoder*, but we have ceased to wonder in these days at improvements.

The Laurens Rail Road is in excellent travelling order. When they go, they *do* go, and when they stop, every one wishes they would start again. They have ample time to run the line, and allow the passengers to exercise their limbs, and examine the depots, etcætera. The brushes and briars are encroaching upon their chartered rights, and if a passenger pops his head out to see what is passing, he is in great danger of a brushing. Laurens has not improved as we expected it would have done.—

Twelve months ago, there was a building going up which is not yet completed; we saw but one workman engaged, and he moved like as if it were a jail and he sentenced to a life-time imprisonment when finished. There is a mineral spring near the Village, its waters have been analysed, but no one could tell anything about it, except it contained iron. It is not necessary to get a Chemist to tell that, for Mr. S—— says he he has used no other ink than this water and maple-bark; the spring is owned by a gentleman who takes but little interest in such things. A passenger remarked in reference to it, that "if the Squire would make a sham sale of it to Mr. S——, we would have another humbug, but the Squire was not that sort of a man." They are not altogether unacquainted with humbugs up there. Some one is now *soaping* them—whether they are to be *shaved* into the bargain, is yet to be found out.

We did not see a lot of Chinese Sugar Cane in all the route, and only one young orchard of young trees that we remember, above Newberry. They are many acres of land in Spartanburg and Greenville, we think would pay if set in apple and peach trees and grape vines. Dr. Croft, of Greenville, has commenced with the grape, and I hope, will be amply repaid for the trouble and expense. Others seem to have symptoms of "the grape or wine fever." After spending a few days quite pleasantly, we were again compelled to return to

July 22nd, 1857.

"LITTLETON."

For the Farmer and Planter.

#### State Agricultural Society---Reports, &c.

MR. EDITOR:—Under the above caption, you have in endorsing the views of an unknown correspondent, taken another side-wipe at the Executive Committee.

As one of that unfortunate corps, I would most respectfully ask what is meant by the "Reports received at our last Exhibition?"

If I mistake not, all that was particularly interesting or useful, was published in the last No. of the Agriculturist, in connection with the premiums awarded, or in the Farmer and Planter since. The Executive Committee, knowing that the Society paid per page for the printing, did not feel inclined to tax it with the cost of publishing a vast deal of matter uninteresting to readers generally; they, therefore, left out all the remarks, suggestions, complimentary notices of animals, which was not quite good enough to take premiums, etc., etc., as irrelevant.

ONE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.





## The Farmer and Planter.

PENDLETON, S. C.

Vol. VIII, No. 9, : : : September, 1857.

### The Law of Newspapers.

We would call the especial attention of subscribers who intend discontinuing their paper without paying up all arrearages, to the following:

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.
2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher can continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible till they settle their bill, and order the papers discontinued.
4. If any subscriber removes to another place without informing the publisher, and their paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.
5. The court has decided that refusing to take a newspaper from the office, or removing and leaving it uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of an intentional fraud.

### Chinese Sugar Cane---Millet.

On another page our esteemed subscriber and friend, Dr. J. S. REID, asks for information as to the proper time for cutting the Sugar Cane for making syrup or sugar. Who of our readers can answer? We have had no experience in making syrup from it, but have with the common corn, on which at least half the blades should be dry before it is cut. If the grain on the Sugar Cane is not allowed to mature—which we are certain it should not be to ensure the greatest amount of saccharine matter—the removal of the head will, in all probability, hasten the maturity of the stalk, as is the case with the common corn when the shoots are taken off.

MILLET (*Panicum Germanicum*).—We sow half a bushel of the seed to the acre, which, we think, is altogether sufficient if the ground is well prepared and the seed covered not too deep. A brush or light harrow will cover deep enough. We have 16 acres now growing, which looks well on good land, and it should not be soon on any other—but the continued rains (August 4th), have prevented cutting it as early as we intended, though it makes a valuable hay even after the seed is ripe. Some contend it is most valuable cut after the ripening of the seed. We would prefer cutting when in bloom, for hay.

### Lieber's Survey.

A number of enquiries have been made of us since Mr. LIEBER was said to enter upon the Agricultural, Geological and Mineralogical Survey of our State, as to his whereabouts—his progress, &c., &c., to all of which we have been unprepared to give satisfactory answers. We stated some time since, we presumed, he was somewhere about the York Gold Mines, where our former Surveyor spent most of his time, in search of the precious metals, in preference, probably, to the attention due the agricultural branch of his survey, and for which he was, no doubt, best qualified. But, from the letter below, which we take from the "Carolinian," it appears that Mr. LIEBER was at the time it was written (26th July), at Glenn Springs—we refer our readers to it for information. It appears that no order was given by the Legislature for the distribution of the thousand copies of the report, which were ordered to be published; and hence, with the exception of fifty copies granted to Mr. LIEBER, they are yet lying in the State House. Of the fifty copies handed over to Mr. LIEBER, he says: "Some of them were sent to the leading journals of our State, &c." We do not know what journals are termed the "leading journals of the State," but we do know that the only agricultural paper of the State has had none sent it, though it will scarcely be deemed by any one, we presume, that if agriculture has any claims or interest in the survey, that we were as much entitled to a copy as were the "leading journals;" and we will even venture to say further, that it seems to us, viewed through "a glass darkly," that an agricultural paper is, above all others, the medium through which reports on the agricultural interests of the State should be conveyed. We know this has been the practice in other States, as appears from our agricultural exchanges, but in ours it seems, and it is in character—the agricultural interests must stand aside till all others are served, "It is able to take care of itself."

We have never asked for one of the reports, for the reason that we thought we were entitled to one without, which we should have been pleased to have received, not for our own information alone, but for that especially of the readers of our paper, doubting not we should have "thought the matter of sufficient importance"—the agricultural matter at least—to lay before them. But to the letter.

Before it, however, it may be well to give a letter of enquiry by "Rusticus," which we take from the "Carolina Times." We have overlooked the letter of "Agricola," which, it seems, drew out Mr. LIEBER.

Mr. Editor:—I observe that a correspondent in the *Times* of the 20th inst., makes some inquiry in relation to the *locus in quo*, &c., of the Report of our State Geologist.

The inquiry of our correspondent is a very natural one. The report, I have ascertained, has been printed and deposited in the Treasury Department. The Legislature made an appropriation, the object of which was, to obtain the information presumed to be contained in this Report. The intelligent and efficient



gentleman who was employed by the State to make the necessary surveys and obtain the information, has discharged his duty, made his report, and printed it. Why has it not been published? Or, in other words, why has it not been distributed, so that the people, for whose information it was intended, may know what it contains? Is it to be suppressed?—If so, by whose authority?

There is, Mr. Editor, a very general solicitude to obtain information as to this matter—and, the people, who are interested, have a right to demand it. For one, I regard the intelligence which is presumed to be contained in this Report, exceedingly interesting and important, and trust that some one will inform us why it has not been distributed, as was contemplated. I would ask, with "Agricola," "are these reports to be piled up in the basement of the State House and rot like Mr. Tuomey's Report?"

RUSTICUS.

#### The Report on the State Survey---Answer to "Agricola."

CAMP AT GLENN SPRINGS, }  
July 26, 1857. }

Mr. Editor:—I have just received a copy of a very friendly article on my report, which appeared in a recent number of your journal, with the signature of "Agricola." The communication demands answers to several questions, and these it seems to me, I am the most proper person to furnish, as of course it is natural that I should take a deeper interest in the labors which occupy me at present, than anyone else.

The writer wishes to know how it is that my report on the survey of last year, is not yet generally distributed, notwithstanding that the Legislature ordered the publication of a thousand copies, and he further asks whether these reports will be left to the same fate as Mr. Tuomey's.

A thousand copies were ordered to be published, but no action was taken at the last session of the Legislature with regard to their distribution, with the exception of fifty copies, which I was to receive at once, and which I have disposed of in the manner intended. Some of them were sent to the leading journals of our State, but, most of these have only acknowledged their receipt and given no abstracts of the contents. The plan pursued with my report is, I understand, the customary one with all our Legislative publications, except with that termed *permanent work*. The thousand copies, with the exception of those granted to me are now at the State House and must remain there until the Legislature shall determine what is to be done with them, and no members of the committee on public improvements or agriculture, nor presidents and secretaries of agricultural societies in the State can be responsible for the fact that the distribution of the publication has yet been so sparingly effected.

As the author in the report in question, it is very evident that I am most deeply interested in its distribution, and I can therefore assure the writer of the communication, that, as far

as it may be in my power, I shall use every exertion to effect this object. Indeed, I wish to ask permission to distribute all the copies not called for by members at the next session, so that their being left uncared for in the State library may be prevented. It is most natural that request for copies should be addressed to me, and indeed a number of such demands have already been made, which the small number of copies at my disposal prevented are from satisfying.

It is but just now, however, that the report has been delivered into the hands of the State Librarian, for the plates and especially the maps required much time in executing them with that care, which could alone render them of practical utility. The task has been performed with such attention by the Messrs. Colton's of New York, that no room is left for further demands in reference to imprimature. The maps are separate ones, on a scale of five miles to the inch, of the four districts surveyed last year. The other five plates contain geognostic sections, sections of metalliferous views, besides matters connected with agriculture.

As to the fact that no paper in our State has thought the matter of sufficient importance, to lay an abstract of the general contents and features of the report before the public, I can only say that I have more reason to regret it; than the gentleman who has so complimentarily called attention to my services. I certainly had hoped that some of them, to whom I had presented copies, would thus at an earlier day, than would otherwise have been possible, enable the public to form an idea of the works that had been done. I am sir,

Respectfully yours, OSCAR M. LIEBER.

#### Acknowledgments.

*Patent Office Seeds.*—We take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt, by the Secretary of the Pendleton Farmers Society, of several packages of wheat for distribution among the members, from the Hon. Commissioner of Patents. And we will here take occasion to caution persons who may receive such seeds, against introducing in this way, the seeds of pestiferous grasses and weeds that we yet know nothing of. We find in many of the packages of wheat, such seeds. In a package of Spanish Spring Wheat, sent us two years since, were a number of small seed that were overlooked in planting, from which sprung up a corresponding number of plants that were entire strangers to us. We carefully pulled up all except one plant—that one we allowed to go to seed, and it produced thousands to one, and would, we are sure, prove a great pest to the wheat field. We find some of the packages recently received, contain cheat, cockle and various other seeds, that should be carefully picked out before sowing.

#### Answers to Enquiries.

Several of our subscribers, we see, on referring to our lists of payments, have over paid. Some of them have already sent us new names to absorb the overplus. We should be much pleased if every one



would do the same, as we do not desire to stand in arrears to our subscribers.

T. J. D., *Dyson's Mills*.—You owe for volumes 5, 6, 7 and 8—\$4.00.

Mrs. M. W., *Ghappell's Depot*, owes for the same, volumes 5, 6, 7 and 8—\$4.00.

H. M. E., *Earlesville*.—We have your name yet at your office, and cannot account for your not receiving the paper. We have directed the last three numbers to be sent you. Does O. P. E. receive his paper? You have credit for the current volume.

E. A. G., *Mar's Bluff*.—Your payment was received and credited—the name probably passed over in our list of payments.

B. F. P., late P. M., *Fort Mills, S. C.*—We do not know, not having our list before us, whether or not R. P. HAINE's payment has been acknowledged. We find, however, that he has credit in full on our books. We send no receipts nor answers to enquiries about accounts, unless the postage stamp is enclosed, unless on special occasions. This we have stated in our paper, we can't say how often, heretofore, and yet we are frequently called on for receipts, and have more frequent enquiries about accounts. We again say to all such as may make such enquiries without enclosing a stamp, *look under the above head for an answer*.

#### Advertisements, Notices, &c.

We believe we have neglected to call the attention of our District readers to the advertisement of the Messrs. BELLOTT, merchants of our Village. Persons wishing to obtain as good bargains as can be had in our District—and a "*lecture*" better than from those who are too close-fisted to advertise—will do well to call on the Messrs. BELLOTTE.

Messrs. ENGLAND & BLECKLEY have recently put up a family Grocery in our Village, of which due notice has been given through numerous hand bills which we have struck off for them. From these gentlemen, Groceries may be bought on the most reasonable terms of our market. Be sure to call on them before purchasing elsewhere, and ten to one if their polite and most accommodating Clerk, Mr. SHARPE, do not supply your wants to your entire satisfaction.

PENDLETON FEMALE ACADEMY.—The recent marriage of our former most amiable and accomplished teacher, Miss JEBB (now Mrs. MARTIN), set our romping girls all afloat in the world for a short time; but we understand from other papers (not authorized to say so, however,) that the school is again in full blast, under the direction of the Misses PELOTS, as Principals, and the Rev. T. L. MCBRYDE, as Assistant. We hope the Trustees will excuse us for giving this notice.

*The Pendleton Messenger*.—The attention of our readers everywhere, is directed to the Prospectus of the above paper, to be published, if sufficiently encouraged, at our Village of daily increasing magnitude and consequence, by Mr. WM. LIVELY, a citizen of the place, and withal a most worthy gentle-

man, fully competent to the task which he, at the solicitation of many friends and acquaintances, has consented to assume.

*The Examiner*.—The Prospectus of this expected new comer, also claims the attention of our readers. We are not quite certain we are considered one of the "Brethren of the press"—we doubt if we are by some of the press conductors of the State—but as we feel quite certain, from the known abilities of the gentlemen who are to conduct the Examiner, that it will turn up one of the very best papers in the State, and one which we shall be pleased to exchange with. We venture to give them a showing

#### Crops, Prospects, Extracts from Letters received, &c.

H. R., *Orangeburg*.—"The times here with farmers are dark and gloomy. I have never heard more complaints about poor crops, caused by the incessant rains that have fallen for the last 5 or 6 weeks and are still (Aug. 4th) falling. Crops are three weeks behind. Cotton will certainly fall off one-fourth, and there can't be an average crop of corn. We harvested a fine wheat crop."

R. G. B., *Pleasant Mound, Laurens Dist.*.—"Crops about here are fine, except cotton—a bad stand—large enough—a plenty of rain all the year."

Since our last but few of our correspondents have said anything about crops, but from our exchanges we find that rains have been general and abundant. Corn has greatly improved, and what cotton there is standing is running more to weed than seed. Blooms are found universally scarce for the time of the year. The wheat crop in the South and Southwest has turned out as was expected—much over an average; but in several of the great wheat growing States it is represented to fall far short. Oats that were not housed before the rains set in, have been much injured, and some on bottom lands entirely lost. It is by no means a commendable practice in farmers to leave out either wheat or oats any longer than is necessary to dry them sufficiently to stack or house. "*Save what you have made*," is good council.

Our kind Northern brethren, who pretend to despise us and all the products of the slave labor on which they fatten and grow rich, are making heavy drafts on the Southern wheat crop. We clip the following from an exchange. All our Southern roads are groaning under like burdens.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The Atlanta (Ga.) Examiner, 7th inst., says:

On Tuesday last, one hundred and twenty freight cars passed over the State Road, from Chattanooga to Atlanta, loaded with wheat.—The receipts for this freight, by the State Road, on that day, amounted to \$4,500.

The Augusta Dispatch, 6th inst., says:

A large quantity of wheat is now coming down the Georgia Railroad, *en route* for its final destination. About forty car loads pass over the South Carolina Railroad, for Charleston, every day.



**Look to the "Ladie's Department,"**

And there you will see our much esteemed lady friend, "Lucy," is in distress about her turkeys. We need not urge you to relieve her, for if posted up in such matters, we know you will congratulate yourself on being prepared to do so. We believe the disease in the turkeys of our fair correspondent, is what is termed "*roup*," which is thus described by a writer in the "*Albany Cultivator*," vol. of 1848.

"This disease, frequently called in this country "*swelled head*," attacks both common barn-yard fowls and turkeys. The first symptoms are a watery fluid being discharged from the eye. The eyelids soon become inflamed and swell; and the swelling extends more or less over the head. A fetid discharge proceeds from the nostrils, which so obstructs respiration that the fowl is constantly sneezing and gasping.—In bad cases one or both eyes are frequently destroyed. The disease is believed to be contagious, and as soon as a fowl is affected, it should be removed to some dry comfortable place where there will be no liability of the malady being communicated to others. If many fowls are affected, it will be advisable to remove the whole of them, and wash their apartments with a strong wash of hot-lime. A writer in the *English Agricultural Gazette*, recommends as the best remedy, bathing the head with warm fomentations in poppy-heads have been infused, and giving a preparation of goose-grease (lard probably would do as well.) and chopped rue, mixed together—two tea-spoons full for a fowl twice a day. For drink, the fowls are allowed water which has iron, or iron-rust and sulphur in it."

In the same work, vol. for 1856, in answer to enquiries, the Editor says:

"The disease you speak of is called by various names in books, such as *roup*, *catarrh*, &c., but is more known in this country as "*swelled head*." It is a bad disease, and is believed to be contagious, though it is produced spontaneously or from causes unknown. As soon as a fowl is known to have the disease, it should be taken away from the healthy ones and kept in a moderately warm and dry place. We have heard of various remedies, but believe the best is, to wash the head often with castile-soap-suds, with occasionally a wash of sugar of lead. If they are very bad, it is as well to cut their heads off, for it is difficult to save them, and if they live, they generally lose one or both eyes."

We have published a number of recipes for diseases of poultry in the back volumes of the *Farmer and Planter*, in one of which, we think—we cannot now refer to it—that after washing the head with soap suds, as above, it was recommended to dry with a cloth, and then wash with whiskey; but the whiskey is so poisoned "*now-a-days*," that we do not like to recommend even to wash a turkey's head, let alone to be given internally.

*Good Coffee*.—And now, all ye lovers of good Coffee, we promise you a treat, if you can only prevail on your better halves to follow the directions given by our other fair correspondent, "*MINUTIA*," which she sends

at the request of her husband, an esteemed young friend of ours, who is not only a judge of good coffee, but has had judgement enough to get a good wife; who, though personally unknown to us, will accept our sincere thanks for her first contribution to our columns—we trust it will not be the last.

We have just received (Aug. 12th), from Mr. GLAZE, of Columbia, a slip from the "*American Agriculturist*," giving directions for making sugar from the Chinese Sugar Cane, which we copy below, knowing the anxiety of many of our readers for information on this subject. We regret it was not received in time for our August No., but yet may be in time for late crops. The directions embrace the *modus operandi* for carrying on the whole business, even on a larger scale probably than will be attempted by many, if any, of our readers; but every one who may attempt the making of Syrup, if only on a small scale, may derive valuable information from the article. We are surprised to see that the writer, in speaking of the time for cutting, seems to admit the propriety of letting the seed remain on the stalk till nearly matured or "*fully out of milk*." We have heretofore stated why we would pursue a different course, and need not again do so.

We regret that the cost of the lowest priced mills, as advertised by Mr. GLAZE, in the *Columbia papers* will, in all probability, force many to make and use the wooden rollers instead of cast ones, as from our own experience with the latter, we consider them a poor make-shift.

From the *American Agriculturist*.  
**Directions for Sugar Making.**

PHILADELPHIA, July 16th, 1857.

*Editor of the American Agriculturist*:—Dear Sir: A reply to your inquiries in relation to the requisite instruction for arranging mills, boilers, tanks, filters, coolers, &c., &c., and then also, the "*modus operandi*," after all are ready, will be rather difficult to give in a manner satisfactory, even to ourselves, with the light before us. We have spared no pains or time in collecting information to enable us as far as possible to give to others engaged in the pioneering of this new Sugar cane movement. We shall do the best we can, however, and urge those engaged in it to be thorough in experimenting, try all the modes and means known, and be sure to keep some careful record for future use. In the course of two weeks we expect to be in possession of the results of a test in Florida, near Orange Springs, which shall be made public *whatever it is*. Mismanagement has deprived us of the use of the cane we had planted in the hot house, for early test. The first that will be worked besides that in Florida, will be at Gov. Hammond's, of S. C., about the 10th or 15th of August. Col. Peters tells us that his seventy acres of "*Sorgho*," is now about six feet high, and will be ready from 1st to 15th September; he has some earlier planted that he will work about the 20th of August. On this he uses a two horse mill



just being shipped by us, and a steam power mill for his large crop. He only designs making syrup or molasses, except, perhaps, a small experiment with sugar.

The cane must be allowed to mature fully, not attempting to work it until the seed is fully out of the milk, and as some of the tillers will be rather later than others, it will no doubt do better to throw them out for fodder than jeopardize the rest. The leaves should be stripped off before cutting and the top cut off with the seed some two and a half or three feet down, as there is not much saccharine juice in the upper end. Then if your apparatus is ready, cut and grind as fast as you cut, and boil as fast as you grind, since the less time the stalks or cut cane is exposed the better. The juice, if concentrated by the usual process, will pass through two sieves—first No. 8 and then No. 16, set over a large tin funnel immediately under the mill, (which will be set about three feet from the ground upon three posts firmly bedded in the ground about three feet). This funnel is contracted to a pipe of two inches diameter and running under ground pass the horse's track, and entering a tank either lined with tin or painted thoroughly, and varnished so as to be impervious to the juice and easily washed clean, when left idle for even one hour. The juice is raised by tin buckets or a tin or copper pump from this to a clarifier. This may be of sheet iron No. 8, and about 12 inches deep, and large enough to fill your first kettle, and set higher with draw off pipe and stop-cock entering at the bottom. This clarifier is set so that the heat is applied under it after leaving the range of boilers, and may be shut off by damper into another side flue while you discharge this pan. The heat being applied slowly, a thick skum rises, and when near boiling you change dampers and draw off until the juice begins to sediment or scum; then clean the pan and fill again, and so on. Now in this first kettle you add lime well slacked and sifted, until your juice will not change the color of litmus paper, (which can be got at any good drug store quite cheaply). While the juice is acid it will change it to a reddish hue, and if thus boiled will neither granulate nor keep sweet as molasses.

With our two horse mill of rollers 17 inches long, we use three boilers holding 60, 40, and 20 gallons, with the latter immediately over the fire and set with flaring walls or jambs, rising above each about 6, 8 and 10 inches, and completely cemented with water-lime. The last, or 20 gallon boiler, should be higher than the 40, and that above the 60, so that the scum will run through the gap into the next kettle behind successively. The scum should also be thrown back whenever accumulated into the hindmost kettle. If you have no experience in testing the syrup in the "battery," a thermometer, made for that purpose, can be obtained in most large cities for a dollar or so.—It requires to be graduated up to say 250°, as about 240° Fahrenheit is considered the proper point. Should the heat rise above this, you must open your fire doors and throw over the fire an armfull of begasse from the mill, and then discharge the syrup as quickly as possible

and refill from the next kettle, thus continuing successfully.

The coolers in which you discharge may be of good clear white pine without paint inside, and 12 inches deep, and large enough to hold four charges, and then left to cool and granulate; or if you make molasses only, you will use barrels, staves of oak, and heads of pine or cypress, thoroughly made.

In regard to crystallizing the sorgho sugar, we, to-day, went with Col. Peters to the sugar refinery of Messrs. Eastwick & Brothers, No. 73 Vine street, of this city, carrying with us some sugar made from the sorgho, by Col. Peters in Georgia, and by Mr. Wray in France.—These specimens were subjected to the severest chemical tests, and examined under a powerful microscope, and both proved to be true crystallizable sugar, and not glucose. As the examiners are perhaps not surpassed for accuracy in this country—not even in Boston—we deem these experiments highly satisfactory. They promise a public report of the examination soon.

For the Farmer and Planter.

#### Col. Dogan's Proposition.

MR. EDITOR:—You may put me down for one of the 20 to fill out Col. Dogan's list. It is a capital "proposition," and I hope will meet a hearty response from all quarters. There could be no more certain and efficient method devised of making your journal popular and useful. The moment a man becomes a contributor to a paper, he becomes, in part, Editor, and is so far interested in its success. The larger and abler the corps of writers, the easier, of course, will the Editor find it to please all tastes, and to publish promptly, a useful journal. Allow me to suggest an amendment to Col. Dogan's proposition: Suppose we say for the best communication on any agricultural subject, published in the Farmer and Planter during the ensuing year, dating from the time the Editor shall announce that the list is filled. The competitors shall be required to mark their communications "D."

A committee of three, appointed by the President of the State Ag'l. Society, or by the Executive Committee. The Editor of the Farmer and Planter shall supply each member of the Committee with printed copies of the communications, and the Committee shall announce their award in the columns of the Farmer and Planter. In this way, no one but the successful competitor will be known, and as the judges cannot know a man's *manuscript* when printed, they may escape the charge of favoritism.

Ever truly yours,

BROOMSEDGE.



**Labels of Fruit Trees.**—After a trial of some years, we confidently recommend the following composition as making an indelible marking ink on zinc for trees. Let strips of zinc, half an inch wide and perfectly bright, of any suitable length be procured, punch a hole in one end, and suspend by copper wire to the branch of a tree, with the name written on it, and it will remain for many years indicating at all times the name, and preventing much of the confusion so prevalent in nomenclature of fruits. It should be written with a quill pen, and always shaken before using. Take one drachm of Verdigris, one drachm Sal ammonia powder and half a drachm of Lamp black, and mix with ten drachms of water.—*Farm Journal.*



### Ladie's Department.

#### For the Farmer and Planter. A Good Cup of Coffee.

MR. EDITOR:—Yes, it is a "solemn fact" that few marriageable girls of twenty, know how to make a cup of good coffee! And what have they to do with such knowledge? What Ladie's Seminary teaches this difficult science? But, dear sir, as I, by good luck, have been much praised for "capital good coffee," I will tell you the process for the benefit of everybody, married or single. I taught myself; for I happened to live in those unfortunate times when coffee-making, roasting beef, and shirt-making were unheard of in Seminaries. I learned French, to enlarge my conception of my own mother tongue; music, for its own sweetness; dancing, for some grace, and hope, notwithstanding a "rural mistic's" horrors at being frightened by such a smattering, that I am not utterly deficient in some useful acquirements. When you have made some "good coffee by my instructions, may be you will award me some credit.

I procure the best of *Java* coffee, which is, perhaps, preferable even to *Mocha*, for richness of flavor as well as economy. Pick carefully (three pints) which will measure *four* pints when roasted), to remove all the gravel, which is mixed with coffees, more or less. Do not wash the coffee—a practice in some use—as it

is injurious to the flavor of the article. After picking, turn your coffee into your skillet, which must *not* be previously heated. Keep your coffee in constant motion from the moment you put it on the fire, until it is done. Let the heat be gradual, so that the grains may swell to their full extent. As soon as your coffee begins to brown, increase the heat and add a tiny bit of lard, which will prevent burning. Coffee should be parched one hour, though the greenness of the article may make it necessary to toast it an hour and a half. When you find this is the case, set your skillet off on the hearth, and stir your coffee until it is cool, which I call soaking, and is important to make it grind well.

Now your coffee is parched. If you wish to have *strong* coffee, take *four* large tablespoons full of ground coffee (which must not be ground too rapidly), mix the third of the white of an egg (and the yolk will increase the richness of flavor), stir into the coffee, and add enough cold water to wet the whole thoroughly. Throw them into your *clean* coffee pot, and pour about three cups of boiling water, stirring down the grounds before sitting on the fire. Let the coffee boil five minutes, stirring down twice to get the strength of the grounds. Take off your pot promptly, pour out of the top two cups of coffee successively, and return them, and quickly after throw in the pot a little cold water, which clears your coffee. Pour now a cup full out of the spout to clear the way, and pour it back into the pot. Set your pot by the fire, and in a few minutes your coffee is ready, clear, strong and delicious in flavor. Any cook can make it. Mine learned in a week.

You think certainly I am done now, but I am not. To make your coffee like mine in taste, you *must* have cream, without which coffee is deficient in richness of flavor. But do as I tell you, and you will rise from your breakfast enchanted with the delicious beverage you have drank.

Now I hope the readers of your paper will not exclaim, "Oh, all this is simple enough," or I will answer as did Columbus when he made the egg stand on end, "But you couldn't do it until I showed you how." MINUTIE.

For the Farmer and Planter.

#### A few words from Lucy.

MR. EDITOR:—Again I am in want of instruction and apply to you in my need; like all farmer's wives, I am trying to raise a supply of poultry for the next winter's use, but my



young turkeys puzzle me much; after all the trouble expended upon them, they are dying off with sore head and eyes; the eyes of some of them are so sore they cannot see to take one step. Cannot some of your obliging subscribers, who are experienced poultry-raisers, help me out of my trouble by telling me what to do for them—something simple, that a country poultry-minder can accomplish, as at this season of the year I cannot be there to attend to it?

The gentlemen were good enough to help me last fall about bacon curing, and as good hams deserve fine turkeys, will not some of their wives be kind enough to assist me more with their experience?

Allow me, in concluding, to offer you a very simple recipe for extracting grease from carpets, that has been in our family for years:

As soon as the grease is spilt upon the carpet—never mind in what quantity, or of what kind, do not attempt to wipe or wash it up, but cover the spot with fine corn meal, and as it soaks up the wet grease, remove and replace with fresh meal, then allow it to remain for several hours, rub it with a brush or cloth, sweep up clean, renew the meal, allow it to remain as before. Repeat this process until the grease is entirely removed.

I have seen the oil from a large astral lamp, which was upset upon a new Brussel's carpet, entirely extracted by preserving in the above. If there is much grease, place some meal upon the floor under the spot, as well as above it.

And now, dear Farmer and Planter, good bye for awhile. I do not intend to allow myself to monopolise our allotted space in your valuable journal, only when I stand in need of your assistance—you must allow me to seek it.

LUCY.

From the Cotton Planter and Soil.

#### How to Cook Vegetables—No. 2.

**EGG PLANTS.**—Peel with a sharp knife all the blue skin off, then slice it thin; parboil the slices in water that has been a little salted; make a batter of flour, milk and eggs, with such seasoning as the taste may dictate, dip in the parboiled slices, and fry in melted butter or lard. Another way to cook them to resemble stewed oysters, is to slice them thin and boil until quite tender, then turn off the water, and add sweet milk, crumb in toasted bread or crackers, add pepper and salt to taste, and just before it is served up, break in two or three fresh eggs—stir the whole together and serve up.

**INDIAN CORN, OR ROASTING EARS.**—I suppose you think, Mr. Editor, that every body

knows how to cook roasting ears. Well, if they do, we very seldom meet with any other dish, except corn boiled on the cob—and for extra, corn cut off the cob. Green corn cut off the cob and boiled with shelled beans, seasoned with butter, pepper and salt, makes a very nice dish, called by some succotash.

A nice pudding is made of green corn, by grating it from the cob, and stirring in flour, milk and eggs, with pepper and salt; bake quick, and serve up hot, with wine sauce.—(Best not indispensable.—ED. F. & P.)

A nice omelet is also made of corn. Grate it from the cob, and stir it into a batter made of flour, milk and eggs, seasoned with pepper and salt, and fry in boiling lard.

LEeks may be cooked much like the onion, except that most of the stem is as good as the bulb. Take off the skin, and boil in salt and water until tender, then turn off the water, and finish the cooking in milk, and they will be found very delicate.

**THE ONION.**—There are so many ways to cook the onion, that it seems useless to give any directions about it. Boiled, roasted and fried; pickled and stewed; hashes, ragouts and soups, and then, if I may be allowed an *Irishism*, they are good *cooked raw*. No wonder the Israelites hated to leave Egypt, where leeks and onions were abundant.

**OKRA.**—I look upon this as the *manna* of the South, and I am only surprised that it is not more generally cultivated, cooked and eaten.—If okra is boiled to serve up whole, it should never be cooked in iron, but in brass or porcelain. Okra should have a good portion of salt in the water that it is boiled in; when done tender, drain off the water and serve up with butter, pepper, &c. The French make a famous dish called gumbo, from okra. I don't know how many unmentionable things they put in it, but I will tell you how to make American gumbo, that my family are very fond of. For a large family, take a peck of okra, cut it into thin slices, put into a pot of cold water and start it to boiling. Now take two tender chickens, cut them up, and with a hammer or mallet, macerate the flesh and bones until almost a jelly; add this to the pot of okra; scald and peel a quart of full ripe tomatoes, and grate fine four ears of tender green corn, which add to the mass; stir frequently, to prevent burning. Season with fresh butter, pepper and salt, and when nearly done, add a stalk of finely chopped celery, with a few sprigs of parsley and one onion; continue stirring, and when the mass becomes rosey, and emits a grateful aromatic odor, serve up. If you would *Frenchify* the dish, add, just before it is taken up, a gill of walnut catsup and a half a pint of pure wine.

Okra is also very good fried. Cut into thin slices and fry in lard or butter. A summer soup is not complete without okra. And some of these days I will tell your readers how to dry it, so as to have it in winter soups.

Yours respectfully, BOADICAL.

Woman is a beautiful flower, that can be told, even in the dark, by its (s) talk.



## Treatment of the Hair.

We are venturing on a delicate subject perhaps, but the following brief extract from an old London Magazine, expresses our views too nearly to pass uncorrected:

If the ladies will trust to our science on the subject of hair, in the first place we can assure them, most confidently, that so far is it from being true that oils and pomatums increase the lustre of the hair, their effect is to diminish that polish which it naturally possesses; while whatever gloss they may give to hair which is naturally dull, is false, and like all other falsities, disgusting. Absolute cleanliness, by means of water alone, to commence, followed by brushing in the direction of hair itself, in a dry state, is the true method of giving to the hair all the polish of which it is susceptible; and it is the effect of oils of all kinds to disturb or injure this; to say nothing of the disgust and necessary dirtiness of greasy hair. It is the effect of oils also to prevent it from curling; and this object is most effectually obtained, if without artificial means, by curling it when wet and suffering it to dry in that state. And as it happens that almost all hair has a tendency to curl in one direction rather than in another, it is useful to study that tendency, so as to conform to it in the artificial flexure given. As to artificial applications, the whole of the so called curling fluids are mere imposition; while one, which is really effectual, and at the same time inoffensive is a weak solution of isinglass, by which a very firm and permanent form can be given to the hair.

The fact is, that the whole is an imposture; oils, pomatums, and all; bear's grease, Macassar, and Rowland, huckle a la tuberosa, huile antique; huiles and pomades, divine or whatever else. Excepting so far as pomatum may be used for stiffening or compacting the hair into dirty or greasy masses, or oils for converting the easy and loose flow of nature's ornamental locks into nasty rat's tails, the whole is but a method of extracting money from vanity and fashion. It is but a rivalry of the striking Hottentots, a relic of savage barbarism. As to the chemistry itself, if the ladies will make themselves greasy and disgusting, olive oil, alone, is the only oil that is necessary, hog's lard is the only pomatum; and if it is not sufficiently stiff let it be stiffened to the statue by wax. It is an apothecary's plaster, or an apothecary's ointment, according to its consistence; it is neither more nor less. The rest all perfume, nothing more; and the lady's maid or the lady herself who desire to have a greasy head, may save her money and care, by sending down to the cook for a little oil from the flask, or a little lard from the bladder; or else to the apothecary, for a little simple ointment, preparing it to her own fancy.

However, as long as female vanity exist, (and when will it cease?) we write in vain. The five hundred oils and pomatums will go on being made, and the angel who loves herself better than cleanliness, will go on making herself greasy and odorous. But it is all for the best,

or should trade flourish, how should money circulate from pockets that are too full, to pockets too empty?"

*Rye Mush*:—To make smooth rye mush, sift a quart or more of rye meal into a pan, and gradually pour in sufficient cold water to make a thick batter, stirring it hard with a spoon as you proceed, and carefully pressing out all the lumps against the side of the pan. Add a very little salt. The batter must be so thick at the last that you can scarcely stir it. Then thin it with a little more water and see that it is quite smooth. Rye, and also wheat flour, have a disposition to be more lumpy than corn meal, when made into mush. When thoroughly mixed and stirred, put it in a pot, place it over the fire and boil it well, stirring it with a mush-stick till it comes to a hard boil; then place it in diminished heat, and simmer it slowly till you want to dish it up. Eat it warm with butter and molasses, or with sweet milk or fresh buttermilk. Rye mush is considered very wholesome particularly in cases of dyspepsia.

*Bread Muffins*:—Take four slices of stale light bread and cut off all the crust, lay them in a pan, and pour boiling water over them; but barley enough to soak them well. Cover the bread, and after it has stood an hour drain off the water, and stir the soaked bread till it is a smooth mass; then mix two table-spoonfuls of sifted flour, and a half a pint of milk. Having beaten two eggs very light, stir them, gradually, into the mixture. Grease some muffin rings, set them on a hot griddle, and pour into each a portion of the mixture. Bake them brown; send them to table hot; pull them open with your fingers, and spread on butter. They will be found an excellent sort of muffin; very light and nice.

*Washing Silver Ware*.—A correspondent of the Germantown Telegraph says:

Some thirty years since I was informed by a proprietor of one of the largest and oldest silver establishments in the city of Philadelphia, that housekeepers ruined their silver by washing it in soap suds; it makes it look like pewter; never put a particle of soap about your silver, then it will retain its original lustre; when it wants polishing take a piece of soft leather and whiting, and rub it hard." I had formerly seen silver washed in water with the addition of a little soap and rinsed in clear water.

I adhered strictly to his advice, and found a great difference in the appearance of the silver. [Farm Journal.

*Fly poison Without Arsenic*.—The following preparation is much used in Europe for the destruction of flies: Quassia, eight parts; Water five hundred parts; molasses, one hundred twenty-five parts. Boil the quassia and water ten minutes; strain and add the molasse. The preparation can easily be made by any one. Flies are attracted by this and soon killed.\*

New York Working Farmer.

Try it and you will be sure to fail in your object as we did.—ED. F. & P.

*Cheap Lemon Flavor*.—When lemons are plenty, procure a quantity, cut them into thin slices, and lay them on plates to dry in the oven; when dry, put them into a tight bag, or close vessel, in the store room, where they are both handy and agreeable for almost anything.



**Boiled Flour and Milk.**—Knead any quantity of wheaten flour with water into a ball, and tie the whole firmly in a linnen cloth; put it into a pan with water, and boil it slowly for twelve hours. Place it before the fire to dry, and afterwards, on removing the cloth, separate a thin skin or rind which has formed, and again dry the ball.

A table-spoonful or more of this, grated and boiled with a pint of milk, forms an excellent article of diet in convalescence from diarrhoea. It also makes very suitable food for young children.—*Exchange.*

The flour should not be kneaded with water, but packed closely in a narrow bag in which it should be boiled for after use.—*Ed. F. & P.*

**Preserving Eggs.**—I am convinced from numerous experiments, that eggs may be better preserved in corn meal or bran than anything else. Mrs. ———, the lady knitting in the other corner there, last fall put down some twenty dozen, small end down, and only two came out worse for resting. To this present sitting, some four months, they are "good as new."—Salt does not do as well. *J. E. S. Barre, Mass.*

**Mint Sauce.**—Many of our country friends do not know what a luxury they deprive themselves of, when they eat lamb, either boiled or baked, without mint sauce. Set a few roots of spearmint in one corner of the garden, and they will soon furnish an abundant supply.—Strip off the leaves and chop them fine, add an equal amount of sugar, and cover the whole with vinegar. A small tea-cup full of the mixture is sufficient for a large family. Try this and see if it is not preferable to greasy gravies.—*[Ohio Cultivator.]*

### Syrups.

Septimus Piesse, in the *Scientific American*, says:

Although these preparations are so little used in England, there is no reason why they should not become a regular article in the housekeeper's store-room; they are easy to prepare, and are very agreeable to the palate, also economical as they supersede the use of ardent spirits and wine. On the Continent it is a common practice to drink simple syrup (which is called *eau sucrée*, but which we term *capillaire*), diluted with water to the taste of the drinker.

Capillaire is made thus: Dissolve about two pounds of the best refined white sugar in one pint of water; boil the mixture for five or ten minutes, then strain it through lawn, or a sieve; when cold it is fit for use.

**SYRUP OF CLOVES.**—Proceed in the same way as for making capillaire, but with the sugar add thirty to forty cloves that have been broken or ground.

All the syrups of spices, as cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, &c., can be made in the same way.

**SYRUP OF FRUIT.**—These are prepared in a similar manner to capillaire, substituting the

juices of the fruit in place of the water; in this way it is very easy to make syrup of oranges. Before the oranges are squeezed, or expressed their juice, each orange should be well rubbed or grated with the lump sugar—by so doing the fine flavor of the rind is preserved. All the syrups are drunk by diluting them with water.—About a wine-glass full of syrup to a tumbler of water will be found to make a pleasant draught.

**SYRUP OF COFFEE.**—Take about an ounce of the finest coffee, ground, and a pint of cold water; allow them to stand together for twelve hours or more, then strain, and add one pound and a half of sugar; boil for one or two minutes, not longer, and again strain.

**SYRUP OF TEA.**—One pint of water, 2 lbs. of sugar, an ounce of black tea; boil together five minutes, or rather less, and then strain. A wine-glassful to a half pint of cold water makes very good tea.

**TO NEUTRALIZE THE ACID (OR SOURNESS) IN FRUIT PIES OR PUDDINGS.**—As the fruit season now advances, it is well worthy of notice that a large quantity of the free acid which exists in rhubarb, gooseberries, currants, and other fruits, may be judiciously corrected by the use of a small quantity of carbonate soda, without in the least affecting their flavor, so long as too much soda is not added. To an ordinary sized pie or pudding, as much soda may be added as piled up, will cover a shilling, or even twice such a quantity, if the fruit is very sour. If this little hint is attended to, many a stomach-ache will be prevented, and a vast quantity of sugar saved; because, when the acid is neutralized by the soda, it will not require so much sugar to render the sour sweet.

We have proven the flour remedy as below for burns, and have published it heretofore, but people are apt to forget simple remedies, which are not infrequently better than those of our learned M. D.'s; we, therefore, again lay it before our readers.—*Ed. F. & P.*

**Burns and Scalds.**—In case of burns and scalds, however extensive, all the acute suffering of the patient may be at once permanently relieved, and that in a moment of time, by sprinkling over the injured surface a thick layer of wheat flour, by the hand, or what is much better, by a dredging box. Every vestige of pain produced by such is instantly removed and the sufferer not only escapes the shock of the nervous system accompanying such torture, but will generally fall into a quiet sleep, the moment the atmospheric temperature is thus excluded from the wound. Multitudes are annually perishing by scalds in steamboats, and from burns by camphene, spirit gas, and otherwise, nearly all of whom might be preserved from a fatal result, if this simple practice was adopted immediately after such accidents.

*[Granite Farmer.]*

For the curing of the Whooping Cough, the very latest remedy consists of equal portions of linseed oil, honey and New England rum mixed together. Give a teaspoonful every time the patient coughs. They say it "isn't bad to take."—*Ex.*